

Grade 8 Theory

Examination Length: 2 Hours

Questions will be based on all material from the previous grades plus the following requirements.

Recommended Prerequisites

- Grade 5 Theory
- Grade 6 Theory
- Grade 7 Theory

Keys

- all major and minor keys

Grade 8 Theory is a co-requisite for:
B.C.M.A., Teacher Diploma
L.B.C.M. Hon., Licentiate Honours

Clefs

- C clefs - alto and tenor

Scales

- to write and identify all major and minor (harmonic and melodic) and natural, chromatic scales, modes: Ionian, Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian, Locrian
- to identify: whole tone, pentatonic, blues and octatonic scales
- beginning on any degree of the scale, using a key signature and/or accidentals

Intervals

- to write and identify all *simple and compound* intervals and their inversions to a 15th above or below a given note, in harmonic and melodic form
- using a key signature and/or accidentals

Chords and Harmony

- to write and identify triads - major, minor, augmented and diminished in close and open position with their inversions
- built on any degree of a major or minor (natural or harmonic) scale
- using *functional* chord symbols and *root quality* chords symbols
- dominant sevenths with their inversions in close or open position using *functional* chord symbols and *root quality* chords symbols in major keys
- leading note diminished 7th chords with their inversions in close or open position using *functional* chord symbols and *root quality* chords symbols in minor keys
- to identify cluster chords, polychords and quartal chords

Transposition

- up or down *any* interval within the octave, from a major key to a major key or from a minor key to a minor key
- to concert pitch of a single line of music for orchestral instruments, in B flat (clarinet, trumpet) in F (French horn, English horn)
- transcription of a melody to any other clef, at the same pitch.

Rhythm and Meter

- add time signatures, bar lines, and rests, in *simple* and *compound* time
- irregular groupings: quintuplets and septuplets in *simple time*, duplets and quadruplets in *compound time*
- *mixed and hybrid* meters: $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{5}{8}$ $\frac{7}{4}$ $\frac{7}{8}$ $\frac{10}{8}$ $\frac{10}{16}$

Cadences

- identify and write Authentic (Perfect); V – I or V - i, and half-cadences (Imperfect); I-V, IV-V or i-V, iv-V, Plagal; IV-I, iv-i, using root position chords in *keyboard style* and/or *chorale style* (S.A.T.B.) in major in major or minor keys, add rests as required.

(Keyboard style) (Chorale style)

I V iv V V i iv i

Half or imperfect Half or imperfect Authentic or perfect Plagal

Melody and composition

- composition of a contrasting phrase in a major or minor key, given the first two measures, employing decorative notes; unaccented passing tones and unaccented neighbor tones
- the harmonic structure based on the *primary triads*, I, IV, V in major keys and i, iv, V in minor keys.

Dm A Dm A

I V I V

Dm Gm A Dm

I IV V I

Short and open score

- short score (also known as condensed or compressed), open score
- modern vocal score
- string quartet – 1st Violin, 2nd Violin, Viola and Cello

Analysis

- to analyze a musical composition based of the elements of this, and previous grades
- the use of *functional* chord symbols and *root quality* chords symbols
- the harmonic structure based on the *primary triads*, I, IV, V, V7 in major keys and i, iv, V, V7 in minor keys, forming a clearly defined harmonic rhythm

Terms

- to define the Italian, French and German terms in the following lists and from the lists for the previous grades

Italian

	Musical definition or application
<i>allargando</i>	slowing down and increasing in volume
<i>arco</i>	play with the bow
<i>attacca</i>	proceed to the next section without hesitation
<i>calando</i>	becoming slower and softer
<i>comodo</i>	at a comfortable, easy-going speed
<i>largamente</i>	broadly
<i>maestoso</i>	majestically, in a noble manner
<i>non troppo</i>	not too much
<i>pizzicato</i>	pluck the strings with the fingers
<i>ritenuto</i>	suddenly slower, held back
<i>strepitoso</i>	boisterous, loudly, dynamic
<i>stringendo</i>	in a hurrying manner

French

<i>cédez</i>	gradually slacken the speed
<i>doux</i>	sweet, gently, calm
<i>léger</i>	lightly
<i>lentement</i>	slowly
<i>modéré</i>	moderately
<i>mouvement</i>	tempo, motion
<i>vite</i>	fast

German

<i>bewegt</i>	moving
<i>langsam</i>	fairly slow
<i>lebhaft</i>	lively
<i>mässig</i>	moderate, moderately
<i>mit Ausdruck</i>	with expression
<i>schnell</i>	fast
<i>sehr</i>	very