

Grade 4 - Counterpoint

Examination Length: 3 Hours

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

Recommended prerequisites:
Grade 2 - Advanced Rudiments
Grade 3 - Basic Harmony
Grade 4 - Intermediate Harmony

• Counterpoint Techniques

- candidates should be familiar with the following:
 - imitation
 - sequence
 - inversion
 - retrograde
 - augmentation
 - diminution
 - two-part writing
 - free and invertible counterpoint

- secondary (applied) dominants with cross-voice imitation

Excerpt



• Invertible Counterpoint

- at the 8th (octave) at the 15th
- add the missing voice of a two-part invertible counterpoint composition

Invertible at the octave from W.F. Bach



- **Baroque Dance Miniatures**

- both voices of the opening phrase will be given
- the candidate is responsible to complete both parts for the remainder of the composition continuing in the style of the opening phrase to create a unified two-part contrapuntal composition in binary or rounded-binary (with necessary repeat signs), or ternary form
- the style and key structure should be consistent with an 18th-century dance i.e. Allemande, Courante, Sarabande, Gigue, Bourrée, Minuet
- the length of the composition is determined by the candidate (from sixteen to twenty-four measures)

GIGUE

ALLEGRETTO C.G. M.

Opening phrase given

- **Free counterpoint**

- add the missing voice in to create a unified keyboard composition in Baroque style with appropriate modulation
- from sixteen to twenty-four measures in length
- one part will be given

Allegretto C.G. M.

The musical score is written for a keyboard instrument in D major (two sharps) and 2/4 time. It is marked 'Allegretto' and 'C.G. M.'. The piece begins with a forte (*fff*) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with a repeating eighth-note pattern, while the left hand provides a steady bass line. The score includes first and second endings, with the first ending leading to a repeat and the second ending leading to the final cadence. The piece concludes with a fermata over the final chord.

- **Imitation-Style Composition**

- to complete a two-part invention-style keyboard composition employing free and/or invertible contrapuntal techniques with appropriate modulation
- from sixteen to twenty four measures in length
- one part will be given

Allegretto C.G.M.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time and marked 'Allegretto'. It consists of five systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The first system shows the beginning of the piece with a treble staff starting on C4 and a bass staff starting on C3. The second system includes first and second endings. The third system shows a modulation to a new key signature (one sharp). The fourth system continues the piece. The fifth system also includes first and second endings. The piece concludes with a final cadence in the new key signature.