

Bass Rubric

Technical Exercises Bass

Debut

In this section the examiner will ask you to play a selection of exercises drawn from each of the three groups shown below. Groups A and B contain examples of the scales and arpeggios you can use when playing the pieces. In Group C you will be asked to prepare the bassline riff exercise and play it to the backing track in the exam. You do not need to memorise the exercises (and can use the book in the exam) but the examiner will be looking for the speed of your response. The examiner will also give credit for the level of your musicality.

Groups A and B should be prepared on the starting notes of E and A. Before you start the section you will be asked whether you would like to play the exercises along with the click or hear a single bar of click before you commence the test. The tempo is crotchet = 70.

Group A: Scales

1. Major scale
2. Minor pentatonic scale

Group B: Arpeggios

The arpeggios consist of root note, 3rd and 5th and should be played both ascending and descending.

1. Major arpeggio
2. Minor arpeggio

Group C: Riff

In the exam you will be asked to play a riff to a backing track. The riff shown in bar 1 should be played in the same shape in bars 2-4. The root note of the pattern to be played is shown in the music in each of the subsequent three bars. The tempo is crotchet = 70.

Grade 1

In this section the examiner will ask you to play a selection of exercises drawn from each of the three groups shown below. Groups A and B contain examples of the scales and arpeggios you can use when playing the pieces. In Group C you will be asked to prepare the bassline riff exercise and play it to the backing track in the exam. You do not need to memorise the exercises (and can use the book in the exam) but the examiner will be looking for the speed of your response. The examiner will also give credit for the level of your musicality.

Groups A and B should be prepared on the starting notes of E, A and G. Before you start the section you will be asked whether you would like to play the exercises along with the click or hear a single bar of click before you commence the test. The tempo is crotchet = 70.

Group A: Scales

1. Major scale
2. Minor pentatonic scale
3. Natural minor scale
4. Major pentatonic scale

Group B: Arpeggios

One octave and should be played both ascending and descending

1. Major arpeggio
2. Minor arpeggio

Group C: Riff

In the exam you will be asked to play a riff to a backing track. The riff shown in bar 1 should be played in the same shape in bars 2-4. The root note of the pattern to be played is shown in the music in each of the subsequent three bars. The tempo is crotchet = 70.

Grade 2

In this section the examiner will ask you to play a selection of exercises drawn from each of the three groups shown below. Groups A and B contain examples of the scales and arpeggios you can use when playing the pieces. In Group C you will be asked to prepare the bassline riff exercise and play it to the backing track in the exam. You do not need to memorise the exercises (and can use the book in the exam) but the examiner will be looking for the speed of your response. The examiner will also give credit for the level of your musicality.

Groups A and B should be prepared on the starting notes of A, G and C. Before you start the section you will be asked whether you would like to play the exercises along with the click or hear a single bar of click before you commence the test. The tempo is crotchet = 70.

Group A: Scales

1. Major scale
2. Natural minor scale
3. Minor pentatonic scale
4. Major pentatonic scale

Group B: Arpeggios

One octave and should be played both ascending and descending

1. Major arpeggio
2. Minor arpeggio

Group C: Riff

In the exam you will be asked to play a riff to a backing track. The riff shown in bars 1 and 2 should be played in the same shape in bars 3-8. The root note of the pattern to be played is shown in the music in bars 3, 5 and 7. The tempo is crotchet = 80.

Grade 3

In this section the examiner will ask you to play a selection of exercises drawn from each of the three groups shown below. Groups A and B contain examples of the scales and arpeggios you can use when playing the pieces. In Group C you will be asked to prepare the bassline riff exercise and play it to the backing track in the exam. You do not need to memorise the exercises (and can use the book in the exam) but the examiner will be looking for the speed of your response. The examiner will also give credit for the level of your musicality.

Groups A and B should be prepared on the starting notes of A, G and C. Before you start the section you will be asked whether you would like to play the exercises along with the click or hear a single bar of click before you commence the test. The tempo is crotchet = 70.

Group A: Scales

1. Major scale
2. Natural minor scale
3. Minor pentatonic scale
4. Major pentatonic scale

Group B: Arpeggios

One octave and should be played both ascending and descending

1. Major arpeggio
2. Minor arpeggio

Group C: Riff

In the exam you will be asked to play a riff to a backing track. The riff shown in bars 1 and 2 should be played in the same shape in bars 3-8. The root note of the pattern to be played is shown in the music in bars 3, 5 and 7. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Grade 4

In this section the examiner will ask you to play a selection of exercises drawn from each of the three groups shown below. Groups A and B contain examples of the scales and arpeggios you can use when playing the pieces. In Group C you will be asked to prepare the bassline riff exercise and play it to the backing track in the exam. You do not need to memorise the exercises (and can use the book in the exam) but the examiner will be looking for the speed of your response. The examiner will also give credit for the level of your musicality.

Groups A and B should be prepared on the starting notes indicated. Before you start the section you will be asked whether you would like to play the exercises along with the click or hear a single bar of click before you commence the test. The tempo is crotchet = 80.

Group A: Scales

One octave prepared from the starting notes A, B, C and D

1. Natural minor scale
2. Minor pentatonic scale
3. Blues scale

One octave from the starting notes F and Bb

1. Major scale
2. Major pentatonic scale

Group B: Arpeggios

One octave prepared from the starting notes A, B, C and D

1. Major arpeggio
2. Minor arpeggio
3. Dominant 7th arpeggio

Group C: Riff

In the exam you will be asked to play a riff to a backing track. The riff shown in bars 1 and 2 should be played in the same shape in bars 3-8. The root note of the pattern to be played is shown in the music in bars 3, 5 and 7. The tempo is crotchet = 100.

Grade 5

In this section the examiner will ask you to play a selection of exercises drawn from each of the three groups shown below. Groups A and B contain examples of the scales and arpeggios you can use when playing the pieces. In Group C you will be asked to prepare the bassline riff exercise and play it to the backing track in the exam. You do not need to memorise the exercises (and can use the book in the exam) but the examiner will be looking for the speed of your response. The examiner will also give credit for the level of your musicality.

Groups A and B should be prepared on the starting notes F, Bb, C and D. Before you start the section you will be asked whether you would like to play the exercises along with the click or hear a single bar of click before you commence the test. The tempo is crotchet = 80.

Group A: Scales

1. Major scale
2. Major pentatonic scale
3. Natural minor scale
4. Minor pentatonic scale
5. Blues scale
6. Harmonic minor scale

Group B: Arpeggios

1. Major arpeggio
2. Minor arpeggio
3. Dominant 7th arpeggio
4. Major 7th arpeggio
5. Minor 7th arpeggio

Group C: Riff

In the exam you will be asked to play a riff to a backing track. The riff shown in bars 1 and 2 should be played in the same shape in bars 3-8. The root note of the pattern to be played is shown in the music in bars 3, 5 and 7. The tempo is crotchet = 100.

Grade 6

In this section the examiner will ask you to play a selection of exercises drawn from each of the five groups shown below. Groups A and B contain examples of the modes and scales you can use when playing the pieces. Groups C and D contain examples of the arpeggios and chords. In Group E you will be asked to prepare *one* stylistic study from the three printed. The choice of stylistic study will determine the style of the Quick Study Piece.

You do not need to memorise the exercises (and can use the book in the exam) but the examiner will be looking for the speed of your response. The examiner will also give credit for the level of your musicality.

Groups A, B, C and D should be prepared on the starting notes indicated. Before you start the section you will be asked whether you would like to play the exercises along with the click or hear a single bar of click before you commence the test. The tempo is crotchet = 100.

Group A: Modes

One octave, two positions. To be prepared from the starting notes of E, F, G and A

1. Dorian mode
2. Mixolydian mode

Group B: Scales

One octave, five shapes. To be prepared from the starting notes of G and B

1. Minor pentatonic scale, shape 1
2. Minor pentatonic scale, shape 2
3. Minor pentatonic scale, shape 3
4. Minor pentatonic scale, shape 4
5. Minor pentatonic scale, shape 5

Group C: Arpeggios

To be prepared from the starting notes of E, F, G and A

1. Minor 7b5 arpeggio
2. Diminished 7

Group D: Chords

High register chords. To be prepared from the starting notes of F and G

1. Dominant 7
2. Minor 7

Group E: Stylistic Studies

You will prepare a technical study from one group of styles from the list below. Your choice of style will determine the style of the Quick Study Piece.

1. Rock/metal
2. Funk
3. Jazz/Latin/blues

Grade 7

In this section the examiner will ask you to play a selection of exercises drawn from each of the five groups shown below. Groups A and B contain examples of the modes and scales you can use when playing the pieces. Groups C and D contain examples of the arpeggios and chords. In Group E you will be asked to prepare *one* stylistic study from the three printed. The choice of stylistic study will determine the style of the Quick Study Piece.

You do not need to memorise the exercises (and can use the book in the exam) but the examiner will be looking for the speed of your response. The examiner will also give credit for the level of your musicality.

Groups A, B, C and D should be prepared on the starting notes indicated. Before you start the section you will be asked whether you would like to play the exercises along with the click or hear a single bar of click before you commence the test. The tempo is crotchet = 100.

Group A: Modes

One octave, two positions. To be prepared from the starting notes of F, Bb, D and Eb on the E string

1. Lydian mode
2. Phrygian mode
3. Jazz melodic minor scale

Group B: Scales

Two octaves. To be prepared from the starting note of G

1. Major scale

Group C: Arpeggios

To be prepared from the starting notes of F, Bb, D and Eb

1. Major 9 arpeggio
2. Minor 9 arpeggio
2. Dominant 9 arpeggio

Group D: Chords

High register chords. To be prepared from the starting notes of E and A

1. Dominant 7
2. Minor 7
3. Major 7

Group D: Stylistic Studies

You will prepare a technical study from one group of styles from the list below. Your choice of style will determine the style of the Quick Study Piece.

1. Rock/metal
2. Funk
3. Jazz/Latin/blues

Grade 8

In this section the examiner will ask you to play a selection of exercises drawn from each of the five groups shown below. Groups A and B contain examples of the modes and scales you can use when playing the pieces. Groups C and D contain examples of the arpeggios and chords. In Group E you will be asked to prepare *one* stylistic study from the three printed. The choice of stylistic study will determine the style of the Quick Study Piece.

You do not need to memorise the exercises (and can use the book in the exam) but the examiner will be looking for the speed of your response. The examiner will also give credit for the level of your musicality.

Groups A, B, C and D should be prepared on the starting notes indicated. Before you start the section you will be asked whether you would like to play the exercises along with the click or hear a single bar of click before you commence the test. The tempo is crotchet = 100.

Group A: Scales

One octave, two positions. To be prepared from the starting notes of F#, G, Db and Ab on the E string

1. Whole tone scale
2. Diminished scale
3. Altered scale

Group B: Scales

Two octaves. To be prepared from the starting note of G

1. Natural minor scale

Group C: Arpeggios

To be prepared from the starting notes of D and G

1. Dominant 7#5 arpeggio
2. Dominant 7b5 arpeggio
3. Minor 7b5 arpeggio
4. Dominant 7#9 arpeggio
5. Dominant 7b9 arpeggio
6. Diminished arpeggio

Group D: Chords

High register chords. To be prepared from the starting notes of F#, G, Db and Ab

1. Dominant 7
2. Minor 7
3. Major 7

Group E: Stylistic Studies

You will prepare a technical study from one group of styles from the list below. Your choice of style will determine the style of the Quick Study Piece.

1. Rock/metal
2. Funk
3. Jazz/Latin/blues

Sight Reading

Debut

You will be asked to prepare a sight reading test which will be given to you by the examiner. The test is a four bar rhythm played on the E string. The examiner will allow you 90 seconds to prepare it and will set the tempo for you. The tempo is crotchet = 70.

Grade 1

In this section you have a choice between either a sight reading test or an Improvisation and Interpretation test. You will be asked to prepare a sight reading test which will be given to you by the examiner. The test is a two bar melody in the key of A minor. The examiner will allow you 90 seconds to prepare it and will set the tempo for you. The tempo is crotchet = 70.

Grade 2

In this section you have a choice between either a sight reading test or an Improvisation and Interpretation test. You will be asked to prepare a sight reading test which will be given to you by the examiner. The test is a two bar melody in the key of C major or G major. The examiner will allow you 90 seconds to prepare it and will set the tempo for you. The tempo is crotchet = 70.

Grade 3

In this section you have a choice between either a sight reading test or an Improvisation and Interpretation test. You will be asked to prepare a sight reading test which will be given to you by the examiner. The test is a two bar melody in the key of G major or A minor. The examiner will allow you 90 seconds to prepare it and will set the tempo for you. The tempo is crotchet = 75-85.

Grade 4

In this section you have a choice between either a sight reading test or an Improvisation and Interpretation test. At this level there is an element of improvisation. This is in the form of a two bar development of the bassline. The piece will be composed in the style of rock, funk or blues and will have chord symbols throughout. The test is eight bars long and is in one of the keys of D major or G major, or D minor or A minor. The examiner will allow you 90 seconds to prepare it and will set the tempo for you. The tempo is crotchet = 80-90.

Grade 5

In this section you have a choice between either a sight reading test or an Improvisation and Interpretation test. At this level there is an element of improvisation. This is in the form of a two bar development of the bassline. The piece will be composed in the style of rock, funk or blues and will have chord symbols throughout. The test is eight bars long and is in one of the keys of F major or G major, or E minor or G minor. The examiner will allow you 90 seconds to prepare it and will set the tempo for you. The tempo is crotchet = 85-95.

Improvisation and Interpretation

Grade 1

You will be asked to play an improvised bassline to a backing track of four bars in the key of C major or A minor. You have 30 seconds to prepare then you will be allowed to practise during the first playing of the backing track before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track. This test is continuous with a one bar count-in at the beginning and after the practice session. The tempo is crotchet = 70-80.

Grade 2

You will be asked to play an improvised bassline to a backing track of four bars in the key of G major or E minor. You have 30 seconds to prepare then you will be allowed to practise during the first playing of the backing track before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track. This test is continuous with a one bar count-in at the beginning and after the practice session. The tempo is crotchet = 80-90.

Grade 3

You will be asked to play an improvised bassline to a backing track of four bars in the key of G major or A minor. You have 30 seconds to prepare then you will be allowed to practise during the first playing of the backing track before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track. This test is continuous with a one bar count-in at the beginning and after the practice session. The tempo is crotchet = 80-90.

Grade 4

In Grade 4, the Improvisation and Interpretation tests contain a small amount of sight reading. This consists of a two bar section of groove notation to be found at the beginning of each test. You will be asked to play the notated bassline and complete the test using an improvised line as indicated. This is played to a backing track of no more than eight bars. The test will be given in one of the four following keys: D major or G major, or D minor or A minor. You have 30 seconds to prepare then you will be allowed to practise during the first playing of the backing track before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track. This test is continuous with a one bar count-in at the beginning and after the practice session. The tempo is crotchet = 90-100.

Grade 5

In Grade 5, the Improvisation and Interpretation tests contain a small amount of sight reading. This consists of a two bar section of notation to be found at the beginning of each test. You will be asked to play the notated bassline and complete the test using an improvised line as indicated. This is played to a backing track of no more than eight bars. The test will be given in one of the following four keys: A major or G major, or E minor or G minor. You have 30 seconds to prepare then you will be allowed to practise during the first playing of the backing track before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track. This test is continuous with a one bar count-in at the beginning and after the practice session. The tempo is crotchet = 90-100.

Quick Study Piece

Grade 6

At this grade you will be asked to prepare and play a short Quick Study Piece (QSP). You will be shown the test and played the track with the *notated parts played*. Any bars that require improvisation will not be demonstrated. You will then have three minutes to study the test. The backing track will be played twice more. You will be allowed to practise during the first playing of the backing track, with the notated parts now absent, before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track.

The style of your QSP is determined by the stylistic study you selected in the technical exercise section. The QSP is in the form of a lead sheet and it is up to you to create your own interpretation of the music in the parts marked for improvisation.

Grade 7

At this grade you will be asked to prepare and play a short Quick Study Piece (QSP). You will be shown the test and played the track with the *notated parts played*. Any bars that require improvisation will not be demonstrated. You will then have three minutes to study the test. The backing track will be played twice more. You will be allowed to practise during the first playing of the backing track, with the notated parts now absent, before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track.

The style of your QSP is determined by the stylistic study you selected in the technical exercise section. The QSP is in the form of a lead sheet and it is up to you to create your own interpretation of the music in the parts marked for improvisation.

Grade 8

At this grade you will be asked to prepare and play a short Quick Study Piece (QSP). You will be shown the test and played the track with the *notated parts played*. Any bars that require improvisation will not be demonstrated. You will then have three minutes to study the test. The backing track will be played twice more. You will be allowed to practise during the first playing of the backing track, with the notated parts now absent, before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track.

The style of your QSP is determined by the stylistic study you selected in the technical exercise section. The QSP is in the form of a lead sheet and it is up to you to create your own interpretation of the music in the parts marked for improvisation.

Ear Tests

Debut

There are two ear tests in this grade. The examiner will play each test to you twice. You will find one example of each type of test printed below.

Test 1: Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you two half notes one after the other. You will tell the examiner whether the second note is higher or lower in pitch than the first note. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played it is preceded by a one bar vocal count-in. The tempo is crotchet = 85.

Test 2: Rhythmic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar rhythm played to a drum backing on the E string. You will hear the test twice. You will be asked to play the rhythm back. You will then be asked to identify the rhythm from two printed examples shown to you.

Each time the test is played it is preceded by a one bar count-in. There will be a short gap for you to practise. Next you will hear a vocal count-in and you will then play the rhythm to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 80.

Grade 1

There are two ear tests in this grade. The examiner will play each test to you twice. You will find one example of each type of test printed below.

Test 1: Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you three notes in sequence. You will identify whether the second note is higher or lower than the first and whether the third note is higher or lower than the second. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played it is preceded by a one bar vocal count-in. The tempo is crotchet = 85.

Test 2: Rhythmic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar rhythm played to a drum backing on the E string. You will hear the test twice. You will be asked to play the rhythm back. You will then be asked to identify the rhythm from two printed examples shown to you.

Each time the test is played it is preceded by a one bar count-in. There will be a short gap for you to practise. Next you will hear a vocal count-in and you will then play the rhythm to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Grade 2

There are two ear tests in this grade. The examiner will play each test to you twice. You will find one example of each type of test printed below.

Test 1: Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar melody with a drum backing using the C minor pentatonic scale. The first note of the melody will be the root note and the first interval will be ascending. You will play the melody back on your instrument. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played it is preceded by a one bar count-in. There will be a short gap for you to practise. Next you will hear a vocal count-in and you will then play the melody to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 85.

Test 2: Rhythmic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar rhythm played to a drum backing on the E string. You will hear the test twice. You will be asked to play the rhythm back. You will then be asked to identify the rhythm from two printed examples shown to you.

Each time the test is played it is preceded by a one bar count-in. There will be a short gap for you to practise. Next you will hear a vocal count-in and you will then play the rhythm to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Grade 3

There are two ear tests in this grade. The examiner will play each test to you twice. You will find one example of each type of test printed below.

Test 1: Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar melody with a drum backing using the G minor pentatonic scale. The first note of the melody will be the root note and the first interval will be ascending. You will play the melody back on your instrument. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played it is preceded by a one bar count-in. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. Next you will hear a vocal count-in and you will then play the melody to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 85.

Test 2: Rhythmic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar rhythm played to a drum backing on the E string. You will hear the test twice. You will be asked to play the rhythm back. You will then be asked to identify the rhythm from two printed examples shown to you.

Each time the test is played it is preceded by a one bar count-in. There will be a short gap for you to practise. Next you will hear a vocal count-in and you will then play the rhythm to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Grade 4

There are two ear tests in this grade. The examiner will play each test to you twice. You will find one example of each type of test printed below.

Test 1: Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar melody with a drum backing using either the D major pentatonic or B minor pentatonic scales. The first note of the melody will be the root note and the first interval will be descending. You will play the melody back on your instrument. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, root note, count-in, melody. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and root note for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the melody to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Test 2: Harmonic Recall

The examiner will play you a tonic chord followed by a two bar chord sequence in the key of C major played to a drum backing. The sequence will be drawn from the I, IV and V chords and may occur in any combination. You will be asked to play the root notes of the chord sequence to the drum backing in the rhythm shown in the grade book. You will then be asked to identify the chords. This rhythm will be used in all examples of this test given in the exam. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, tonic, count-in, chord sequence. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and tonic for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the root notes to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Grade 5

There are two ear tests in this grade. The examiner will play each test to you twice. You will find one example of each type of test printed below.

Test 1: Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar melody with a drum backing using either the F major pentatonic or D minor pentatonic scales. The first note of the melody will be the root note and the first interval will be descending. You will play the melody back on your instrument. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, root note, count-in, melody. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and root note for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the melody to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Test 2: Harmonic Recall

The examiner will play you a tonic chord followed by a two bar chord sequence in the key of G major played to a drum backing. The sequence will be drawn from the I, IV, V and vi chords and may occur in any combination. You will be asked to play the root notes of the chord sequence to the drum backing in the rhythm show in the grade book. You will then be asked to identify the chords. This rhythm will be used in all examples of this test given in the exam. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, tonic, count-in, chord sequence. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and tonic for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the root notes to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Grade 6

There are two ear tests in this grade. The examiner will play each test to you twice. You will find one example of each type of test printed below.

Test 1: Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar melody with a drum backing using one of the following scales: G natural minor, E major pentatonic or G minor pentatonic. The first note of the melody will be *either* the root note *or* the fifth, and the first interval will be *either* ascending *or* descending. You will play the melody back on your instrument. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, root note, count-in, melody. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and root note for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the melody to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Test 2: Harmonic Recall

The examiner will play you a tonic chord followed by a two bar chord sequence in the key of C major played to a drum backing. The sequence will be drawn from the I, ii, IV and V chords and may occur in any combination. You will be asked to play the root notes of the chord sequence to the drum backing in the rhythm shown in the grade book. You will then be asked to identify the sequence you have played to the examiner, including any chord extensions. This rhythm will be used in all examples of this test given in the exam. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, tonic, count-in, chord sequence. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and tonic for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the root notes to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Grade 7

There are two ear tests in this grade. The examiner will play each test to you twice. You will find one example of each type of test printed below.

Test 1: Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you a two-bar melody with a drum backing using one of the following scales: F natural minor, Bb major pentatonic or D minor pentatonic. The first note of the melody will be *either* the root note *or* the fifth and the first interval will be *either* ascending *or* descending. You will play the melody back on your instrument. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, root note, count-in, melody. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and root note for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the melody to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Test 2: Harmonic Recall

The examiner will play you a tonic chord followed by a two bar chord sequence in the key of A major played to a drum backing. The sequence will use the I, ii, iii, IV, V and vi chords. The ii, iii and vi chords can be either minor or minor 7th chords. You will be asked to play the root notes of the chord sequence to the drum backing in the rhythm shown in the grade book. You will then be asked to identify the sequence you have played to the examiner, including any chord extensions. This rhythm will be used in all examples of this test given in the exam. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, tonic, count-in, chord sequence. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and tonic for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the root notes to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Grade 8

There are two ear tests in this grade. The examiner will play each test to you twice. You will find one example of each type of test printed below.

Test 1: Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar melody with a drum backing using one of the following scales: B natural minor, B major pentatonic or C minor pentatonic. The first note of the melody will be the root note and the first interval will be descending. You will play the melody back on your instrument. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, root note, count-in, melody. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and root note for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the melody to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.

Test 2: Harmonic Recall

The examiner will play you a tonic chord followed by a two bar chord sequence in the key of E major played to a drum backing. The sequence will use the I, ii, iii, IV, V and vi chords. The I and IV chords can be either major or major 7th chords. You will be asked to play the root notes of the chord sequence to the drum backing in the rhythm show in the grade book. You will then be asked to identify the sequence you have played to the examiner, including any chord extensions. This rhythm will be used in all examples of this test given in the exam. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, tonic, count-in, chord sequence. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and tonic for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the root notes to the drum backing. The tempo is crotchet = 90.