

ABRSM Grade 8 Music Theory | Free Practice Test

Time limit: 3 Hours

Total points available: 100

Pass: 66/100 Merit: 80/100 Distinction: 90/100

Question 1 (15 Marks). Complete the Trio Sonata

Grave

6 7 - 6 6 5 6 5 9 - 8 4 - 3 9 - 8

5

6# 6 6 5# 6 4 - 3 6 4 5 9 6 4 - 3
4# 4 # 5 2

9

6# 5# 9 6 6 6 5 9 - 8 6 6# 7 6 5
5 4 3 5 # 4 #

etc.

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QUESTION 2 (15 MARKS).

Complete the piano piece (adapted from a piece by Henry Lemoine (1786-1854))

Allegretto

Measures 1-4. Treble clef, bass clef, 6/8 time signature, one flat. Measures 1-2: Treble has a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final note; Bass has a similar line. Dynamics: *f*. Measures 3-4: Treble has a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final note; Bass has a similar line. Dynamics: *p*.

Measures 5-8. Treble clef, bass clef, 6/8 time signature, one flat. Measure 5: Treble has a single note with a fermata; Bass has a single note with a fermata. Dynamics: *f*. Measures 6-8: Treble is empty; Bass has a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final note. Dynamics: *p*.

Measures 9-12. Treble clef, bass clef, 6/8 time signature, one flat. Measure 9: Treble has a chord with a fermata; Bass has a single note with a fermata. Dynamics: *f*. Measure 10: Treble has a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final note; Bass has a single note with a fermata. Dynamics: *p*. Measure 11: Treble has a chord with a fermata; Bass has a single note with a fermata. Dynamics: *f*. Measure 12: Treble has a chord with a fermata; Bass has a single note with a fermata. Dynamics: *p*.

Measures 13-16. Treble clef, bass clef, 6/8 time signature, one flat. Measure 13: Treble has a single note with a fermata; Bass has a single note with a fermata. Dynamics: *cresc.*. Measure 14: Treble has a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final note; Bass has a single note with a fermata. Measure 15: Treble has a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final note; Bass has a single note with a fermata. Dynamics: *dim. e rall.*. Measure 16: Treble has a single note with a fermata; Bass has a single note with a fermata.

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QUESTION 3 (20 MARKS). WRITE A MINIMUM OF 12 BARS AT CONCERT PITCH.

Either:

a) For flute:

Vivo



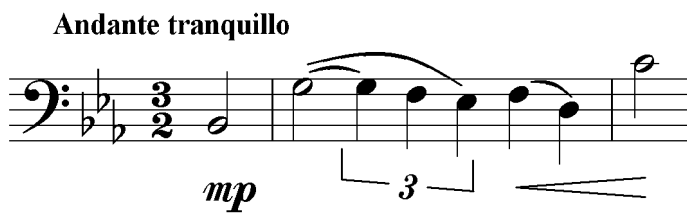
pp

The exercise is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of six measures. The first measure contains a quarter note G4. The second measure contains a quarter note A4. The third measure contains a quarter note B4. The fourth measure contains a quarter note C5. The fifth measure contains a quarter note B4. The sixth measure contains a quarter note A4. The notes are connected by a slur.

Or:

b) For cello:

Andante tranquillo



mp

The exercise is written on a bass clef staff with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a 3/2 time signature. It consists of six measures. The first measure contains a half note G2. The second measure contains a half note A2. The third measure contains a half note B2. The fourth measure contains a half note C3. The fifth measure contains a half note B2. The sixth measure contains a half note A2. The notes are connected by a slur. A triplet bracket is placed under the notes in the third, fourth, and fifth measures.

Blank musical staves for writing the answer.

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QUESTION 4 (25 MARKS)

Look at the piano piece on the next page and answer the questions.

- a) Give the meaning of *dolce e legato*. [2]
- b) Describe the intervals marked A, B and C in the score.
A: [2]
B: [2]
C: [2]
- c) Describe fully the chords marked D, E and F in the score.
D: Chord: _____ Prevailing key: _____ [3]
E: Chord: _____ Prevailing key: Db major [2]
F: Chord: _____ Prevailing key: Db major [2]
- d) Draw a bracket over a 2-bar phrase which is then sequenced a step lower. [2]
- e) Circle a chromatic semitone (augmented unison) in the left-hand part. [2]
- f) What is the widest melodic interval used in the right-hand part? _____ [2]
- g) Name the decoration note marked G in bar 5. _____ [2]
- h) True or false? The sostenuto pedal should only be used in bar 1. _____ [1]
- i) Circle the composer most likely to have written this piece.
J.S. Bach J. Haydn C. Debussy F. Chopin [1]

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Moderato ♩ = 108

p
dolce e legato
con pedale

5

10

15

21

tr
mf
p

A
G
D
B
C
E
F

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QUESTION 5 (25 MARKS)

Look at the orchestral piece on the next page and answer the questions.

a) Fully describe the bracketed harmonic intervals sounding between:

i) Flutes and bassoons, bar 2 _____ [2]

ii) Clarinet 1 and clarinet 2, bar 4 _____ [2]

b) Identify the shaded chords:

i) bar 3 _____ (in E major) [3]

ii) bar 8 _____ (in E major) [3]

c) Give the meaning of:

i. *zu 2* (e.g. bassoons bar 1): _____ [2]

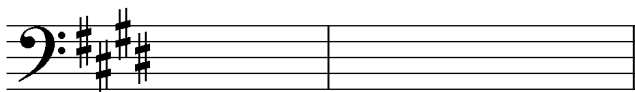
ii.  (e.g. violins bar 6): _____ [2]

iii. *pizz.* (e.g. violas bar 11): _____ [2]

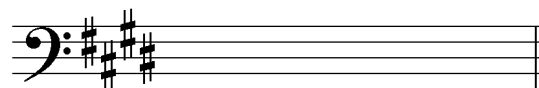
d) Which instrument plays the highest sounding note in the extract? [2]

e) How many double stops occur in this extract? _____ [2]

f) Write out the parts for horns 1 and 2 in bars 10-11, as they would sound at concert pitch and using the given clef. [2]



g) Write out the parts for trombones 1 and 2 in bar 3 using the given clef. [2]



h) Underline the period when this music was written:

1650-1750 1750-1850 1850-1950 [1]

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Andante Maestoso

The musical score is for a symphony in D major, 4/4 time, marked Andante Maestoso. The score is arranged for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Flauto piccolo: *ff*
- 2 Flauti: *ff*
- 2 Oboi: *f*
- Clarinetti in C: *f*
- 2 Fagotti: *ff*, *p*, *f*
- 2 Corni in E: *f*
- 2 Trombe in A: *f*
- 2 Tromboni: *f*
- Basso: *f*
- Timpani in H-E: *f*
- Gr. Tamburo: *f*
- Violino 1: *ff*, *p*, *p*, *ff*, *pp*
- Violino 2: *ff*, *pp*, *ff*, *pp*
- Viola: *ff*, *pp*, *ff*, *pp*
- Violoncello: *ff*, *pp*, *ff*, *pp*
- Contrabasso: *ff*

The score features dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo), *f* (forte), *p* (piano), and *pp* (pianissimo). There are also accents and hairpins throughout. A vertical grey bar highlights a section of the score between measures 10 and 12.

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Musical score for measures 4-8. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Fag.), Violin 1 & 2 (VI. 1, 2), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 4/4. Dynamics include *p*, *pp*, and *div.*. There are also markings for *zu 2* and *1.* in the woodwind parts.

Musical score for measures 9-13. The score includes parts for Flute Piccolo (Fl. picc.), Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Fag.), Cor Anglais (Cor. (E)), Trumpet A (Trb. (A)), Trumpet B (Trbi.), Bass Trumpet (B. Trb.), Timpani (Timp.), Violin 1 (VI. 1), Violin 2 (VI. 2), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello/Double Bass (Vc. e. Cb.). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 4/4. Dynamics include *f*, *p*, and *dolce*. There are also markings for *pizz.* and *8* in the woodwind parts.

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Answers to Q1-3 will vary. Answers to Q4 and Q5:

SECTION 4 (SOURCE: CHOPIN, WALTZ OP.70 NO.3)

- a. Sweetly and smoothly
- b. A: augmented 5th; B: compound minor 7th (minor 14th); C: Major 3rd
- c. D: V7a in Ab major; E: iv (minor iv); F: V9a

d.



- e. Bars 6-7 or bars 14-15.




- f. Major 9th (compound major 2nd).
- g. Chromatic unaccented passing note.
- h. False.
- i. Chopin. (The piece is Chopin's Waltz op.70 no.3)

SECTION 5 (SOURCE: ROSSINI, BARBER OF SEVILLE OVERTURE)

- a. i. Compound minor 6th (minor 13th)
ii. Augmented 5th
- b. i. iia/minor ii in root position
ii. German 6th
- c. i. Both players
ii. Measured semiquavers (16th notes)
iii. Pluck the strings
- d. Piccolo (sounds an octave higher than written)
- e. 7

f.



g.



- h. 1750-1850 (It was composed in 1816)