

In this section you have a choice between:

- *Either* – a sight reading test
- *Or* – an improvisation and interpretation test.

In the exam, the examiner will ask you which one you wish to choose before commencing. Once you have decided, you cannot change your mind.

The examiner will give you a four-bar melody in the key of F major or A minor covering a range up to a major 3rd. You will be given 90 seconds to practise, after which you will perform the test. The tempo is ♩=70.

During the practice time you will be given the choice of a metronome click throughout or a count-in of four beats at the beginning. Whichever option you choose, the practice time will start with the examiner playing the root note. You will receive the same choice when performing the test. The test will start with the root note.

You may perform this test using any vocal sound except humming or whistling.

Grade 2 | Female Vocals

The following examples are indicative of the types of test you will be given in the Grade 2 exam.

Example 1



♩=70

Example 2



♩=70

In the exam, the examiner will give you a chord sequence in the key of A minor. You will hear the backing track three times. The first and second time is for you to rehearse and the third time is for you to perform the final version for the exam. Each playthrough will begin with the root note and a four-beat count-in. The backing track is continuous throughout, so once the first playthrough has finished, the root note and count-in of the second and third playthroughs will start immediately. The tempo range is ♩=80–90.

You may perform this test using any vocal sound except humming or whistling.

Grade 2 | Male Vocals

The following examples are indicative of the types of test you will be given in the Grade 2 exam.

Example 1



♩=90 *Pop*

Example 2



♩=90 *Pop*

In the exam, the examiner will play you a two-bar melody played to a drum backing. It will use the B^b major or A natural minor scale (the examiner will decide which) and the first note will be the root note. You will hear the test twice. Each time the test is played, it starts with the root note and a four-beat count-in. There will be a short gap for you to practise after each playthrough. Next, you will hear a **vocal** count-in, after which you should sing the melody to the drum backing. The tempo is ♩=90.

It is acceptable to sing over the track as it is being played as well as practising after the first two playthroughs. The length of time available after the second playthrough is pre-recorded on the audio track, so the vocal count-in may begin while you are still practising.

You may perform this test using any vocal sound except humming or whistling, and are permitted to sing back the example in your preferred octave.

Grade 5 | Female Vocals

The following examples are indicative of the types of test you will be given in the Grade 5 exam.

Please note that in the exam you will not be supplied with any notated examples. The notated examples that follow are included purely as teaching and learning resources.

Example 1



♩=90

Example 2



♩=90

Soul and R'n'B | Example 1



♩ = 106

B^b7

Sad and lone - ly.

Ba - by you throw me In - to the fire. I've lost con - trol

B^b7

[Vary melody - 4 bars]

F⁹ E^b9 B^b7 A^b7 E^b7 B^b7

[Improvise freely - 4 bars]

Soul and R'n'B | Example 2



♩ = 88

Bm

Here we are.

A/B G Bm/F# E⁷sus⁴ A Bm

We're cling - in' to a bro - ken heart... Don't you want me?

Bm A/B G Bm/F# E⁷sus⁴ A Bm

[Vary melody - 4 bars]

Bm A/B G Bm/F# E⁷sus⁴ A Bm

[Improvise freely - 4 bars]