

Let's Play

Together-gether !

Percussion
Ensemble

Keyboard
Ensemble

Guitar
Ensemble

Ukulele
Ensemble

Singing
Ensemble

Rock/Pop/
Jazz Band

ENSEMBLE EXAMINATION



Objective

The goal of ensemble performance is for all students to acquire a foundation in the performing arts. Working in the areas of genre, form, instrumentation, rhythm, expression, etc...students will become strong contributing members of their performance ensemble and gain lifelong skills.

Therefore, the ensemble examination is placed upon team work between members towards achieving the same goal. The spirit of non-competitive is extremely beneficial.

An Ensemble Performance Examination can be made of any form - a piano duet, string chamber, choir, guitar/ukulele ensemble, small orchestra, pop/jazz band, brass band, and many others.

Number of musicians :-

The number of musicians can range from a minimum of 2 musicians to a maximum of 30 musicians.

Grade of Ensemble Examination :-

Starting from Performance Preliminary Grade to Performance Grade 8. The standard requires for each ensemble grade is equivalent to the grade of each instrument. For example:- If an ensemble is made up of 2 violins, a piano and a cello then Ensemble Grade 1 will be equivalent to standard of Grade 1 violin, piano and cello.

Examination Requirements :-

1) Performance : (80% of total marks) - Candidates are required to perform contrasting pieces.

2) Summary : (20% of total marks) - Candidates who are taking Performance Ensemble Exam should prepare a short information segment in a small folio about each piece being played. This is given to the examiner when entering the examination room. One candidate representative of the ensemble is required to announce the pieces performed, special features of the pieces performed may be mentioned and present as if for a performance. In addition, this is also section for examiner to make overall comment of the full examination. This included general musicality, control, presentation etc. The SUMMARY takes all of this into account.

Choice of pieces :-

All ensemble examinations are solely based on performance. Therefore, no technical exercises such as scales, ear test or sight reading is necessary.

Candidates can play prepared arrangements according to the instruments in their ensemble. Otherwise, candidates can play their own arrangement or composition.

Candidates are required to submit a copy of the master score of the pieces and indicate the Grade of examination to the GUILD. Approval will be made within 10days.

The style, rhythm, technical difficulty and key signature of each individual instrument in the ensemble at any one level can be used as a benchmark to assess the level of difficulty of each ensemble grade.

Required performance time & pieces :-

All performances should be at least 2/3 of the following required times:-
(eg minimum performance time for Grade 8 should be 30min)

Preliminary, Grade 1 and 2	- 15min
Grade 3, 4 and 5	- 20min
Grade 6	- 30min
Grade 7	- 40min
Grade 8	- 45min

For Preliminary Grade to 5 - a minimum of 4 contrasting pieces.

For Grade 6 to 8 - a minimum of 5 contrasting pieces.

Additional pieces are required if the total performance time does not meet 2/3 of the above required time.

The marks will be shared i.e 10 marks each to make a total of 20 marks for that section.

Pass mark :-

Minimum passing mark is 65%

Preliminary to Grade 5 :

Performance : List A – 20% (additional piece can be in any List, 10% marks for each pieces)
List B – 20%
List C – 20%
List D – 20%

Summary – 20%

Grade 6 to 8 :

Performance : List A – 16% (additional piece can be in any List, 8% mark for each pieces)
List B – 16%
List C – 16%
List D – 16%
List E – 16%

Summary – 20%

Marks Grading :-

100 ~ 95	=	High Distinction
94 ~ 90	=	Distinction
89 ~ 85	=	Honours
84 ~ 80	=	High Credit
79 ~ 75	=	Credit
74 ~ 70	=	High Pass
69 ~ 65	=	Pass
64 ~ 0	=	Not Grade Standard {NGS} (No certificate issued)

Assessment :-

Candidates will be assessed as an ensemble under the following assessment criteria:-

- Musical control & co-ordination
- Style, tone and interpretation
- Dynamic and phrasing
- Overall group presentation

Upon passing the ensemble examination, each musician will receive a group examination report and certificate.

Exam session & closing date :-

Examination Session:

May / June

November / December

Registration Date :

1st January – 31st March

1st June – 31st August



Further inquiries :-

Please contact below for any further information :-