

SESSION SKILLS

PLAYBACK

For your exam, you can choose either Playback or Improvising.

If you choose Playback, you will be asked to play some music you have not seen or heard before.

In the exam, you will be given the song chart and the examiner will play a recording of the music. You will hear several four-bar to eight-bar phrases on the recording; you should play each of them straight back in turn. There's a rhythm track going throughout, which helps you keep in time. There should not be any gaps in the music.

In the exam you will have two chances to play with the recording:

- First time – for practice
- Second time – for assessment

You should listen to the audio, copying what you hear; you can also read the music. Here are some practice song charts.

Don't forget that the Playback test can include requirements which may not be shown in these examples, including those from earlier grades. Check the parameters at www.trinityrock.com to prepare for everything which might come up in your exam.

Practice playback 1

♩. = 64

Chords: Fm, B^bm, D^bmaj⁷, A^b

Dynamic: *mp*

Pedal: Ped. _____ cont. sim.

Chords: Fm, B^bm, A^b, C

Dynamic: *mf*

Pedal: no pedal

Chords: Fm, E^b6, B^b/D, D^b, B^bm, C

Dynamics: *pp*, *ff*

Pedal: Ped. _____

Chords: A^b, B^bm/E^b, A^bmaj⁷, B^bm/E^b, A^b, B^bm/E^b, A^bmaj⁷

Dynamic: *mp*

Pedal: Ped. _____ cont. sim.

Practice playback 2

♩ = 100

The musical score is for a piece in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 100.

System 1 (Measures 1-4): The key signature is G major. The first measure has a **G** chord above it. The first staff has a **f** (forte) dynamic. The second measure has accents (>) over the notes. The third measure has an **F** chord above it. The system ends with a repeat sign.

System 2 (Measures 5-8): Measure 5 has a **G** chord above it. Measure 6 has an **A** chord above it. Measure 7 has a **D** chord above it. The first staff has a **p** (piano) dynamic in measure 6, which transitions to **f** (forte) in measure 7. The system ends with a repeat sign.

System 3 (Measures 9-12): Measure 9 has a **G** chord above it. Measures 9 and 10 feature triplets (3) in both staves. The first staff has a **f** (forte) dynamic. Measure 11 has a **ff** (fortissimo) dynamic. The system ends with a repeat sign.

SESSION SKILLS

IMPROVISING

For your exam, you can choose either Playback, or Improvising. If you choose to improvise, you will be asked to improvise over a backing track that you haven't heard before in a specified style.

In the exam, you will be given a song chart and the examiner will play a recording of the backing track. The backing track consists of a passage of music played on a loop. You can choose whether to play a lead melodic line, rhythmic chords, or a combination of the two.

In the exam you will have two chances to play with the recording:

- First time – for practice
- Second time – for assessment

Here are some improvising charts for practice.

Don't forget that the Improvising test can include requirements which may not be shown in these examples, including those from earlier grades. Check the parameters at www.trinityrock.com to prepare for everything which might come up in your exam.

Practice improvisation 1

$\text{♩} = 66$ **Metal**

9 E^5 D^5 E^5 G^5 A^5 G^5 A^5 C^5

5 B B^7 Am^7 $\text{Am}(\text{maj}^6)$ C Cmaj^7 B B^7

9 Em $\text{Em}(\text{maj}^7)$ Em^7 Em^6 Am $\text{Am}(\text{maj}^7)$ Am^7 Am^6

13 E^5 D^5 B^5 A^5 E^5 D^5 E^5 *solo break*

Practice improvisation 2

♩ = 120 Latin

4/4

1 Cm Cm/B^b A^b Gm⁷ Fm Fm/E^b B^b B^b7

5 E^bmaj⁷ E^b/D Cm Cm/G A^b Fm⁷ B^b B^b7

9 G G⁷ A^b A^b/G Fm Fm⁷ G G⁷

13 Cm Cm/B^b Fm Fm⁷ D⁷ G⁷ :||