

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

♩ = 120

E^bmaj⁷ D^bmaj⁷ E^bmaj⁷ A^b E^bmaj⁷ A^b E^bmaj⁷ A^b

5 Cm Fm B^b G Cm

10 A^b₆ B^b G G⁷

13 E^b E^bmaj⁷ Cm Cm⁷ Fm⁷ B^b₇ E^bmaj⁷

mf *mp* *ff* *mf* *dim.* *p* *sfz* *pp*

Practice playback 2

♩ = 104

G G/F# Em Em/D Csus⁴ Csus⁴/E Dsus⁴ D⁷

p *f*

5 G G/F# Em Em/D Csus⁴ Dsus⁴ D⁷ N.C.

9 Em C Em C⁹ G D/F#

p

13 C C/B Am⁷ Am⁷/G F Esus⁴ E

f *ff* *mf*

17 G G⁹/F# Em Em⁶/D C D⁷ Am⁷ G

p

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

♩ = 110 Jazz (swung)

5/4 Ebmaj7 Cm Ebmaj7 Abmaj7 Bb7

5 Cm7 Fm Gm7 Ab Fm7 G G7

9 Cm7 F7 Bbmaj7 Ebmaj7 Adim D7(b9) Gm7

13 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Fmaj7 Bm7(b5) E7 A Bb/Ab

Practice improvisation 2

♩ = 140 **Boogie-style rock**

4/4

1 G⁷ C⁷ G⁷ C⁷ F⁷ C⁷

5 D⁷ Em Fdim D⁷/F[♯] G⁷ E^{♭7} D⁷

9 G⁷ C⁷ G⁷ N.C.

solo break - - - - -

13 D⁷ Bm Am Em C D⁷ :||