

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

♩ = 60

F7 B^b7 F7 B^b7 Gm7 C7 Gm7 C7
mp

5 Fm7 B^b7 Fm7 B^b7 Gm7 C7 Gm7 C7
mf

9 Fm7 A^b6 D^bmaj7 E^b Cm7

13 Fm7 Fm7/E^b Fm7/D^b Fm7/C B^bm B^bm/A^b B^bm/G C7

17 Fm E^b D^b C Fm E^b D^b C
f

21 Fm E^b D^b C Fm E^b D^b C
ff

Practice playback 2

♩ = 90 **Swung**

Sheet music for Practice playback 2, featuring piano and bass staves with various chords, dynamics, and articulations.

Measure 1: Treble clef, F7 chord, *f* dynamic. Bass clef, F7 chord.

Measure 2: Treble clef, B^b7 chord, *f* dynamic. Bass clef, B^b7 chord.

Measure 3: Treble clef, F7 chord, *f* dynamic. Bass clef, F7 chord.

Measure 4: Treble clef, F7 chord, *f* dynamic. Bass clef, F7 chord.

Measure 5: Treble clef, G7 chord, *f* dynamic. Bass clef, G7 chord.

Measure 6: Treble clef, C7 chord, *f* dynamic. Bass clef, C7 chord.

Measure 7: Treble clef, C7 chord, *f* dynamic. Bass clef, C7 chord.

Measure 8: Treble clef, C7 chord, *f* dynamic. Bass clef, C7 chord.

Measure 9: Treble clef, F7 chord, *pp* dynamic. Bass clef, F7 chord.

Measure 10: Treble clef, G7 chord, *mp* dynamic. Bass clef, G7 chord.

Measure 11: Treble clef, B^b7 chord, *mf* dynamic. Bass clef, B^b7 chord.

Measure 12: Treble clef, C7 chord, *ff* dynamic. Bass clef, C7 chord.

Measure 13: Treble clef, F7 chord, *mp* dynamic. Bass clef, F7 chord.

Measure 14: Treble clef, B^b7 chord, *ff* dynamic. Bass clef, B^b7 chord.

Measure 15: Treble clef, F7 chord, *mp* dynamic. Bass clef, F7 chord.

Measure 16: Treble clef, F7 chord, *ff* dynamic. Bass clef, F7 chord.

Measure 17: Treble clef, C7 chord, *mf* dynamic. Bass clef, C7 chord.

Measure 18: Treble clef, B^b7 chord, *pp* dynamic. Bass clef, B^b7 chord.

Measure 19: Treble clef, F7 chord, *mf* dynamic. Bass clef, F7 chord.

Measure 20: Treble clef, F7 chord, *ff* dynamic. Bass clef, F7 chord.

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

$\text{♩} = 100$ **Jazz funk**

11 $\frac{4}{4}$ Cm7 | Dbmaj7 | Eb | Abmaj9 | G | G7 |

5 Cm7 | F7 | Cm7 | Fmaj9 | Bbm7 | A7 | $\frac{3}{4}$ Abmaj7 | G7 | $\frac{4}{4}$

9 $\frac{4}{4}$ Cm7 | Fm7 | Eb^{sus2} | Eb | Fm7 | $\frac{3}{4}$ Gm7 | $\frac{4}{4}$

13 $\frac{4}{4}$ N.C. | :||

solo break -----

Practice improvisation 2

$\text{♩} = 80$ Samba

Handwritten musical notation for improvisation practice, consisting of four staves with chords and a solo break.

Staff 1: 2/2 time signature. Chords: Em^7 , $\text{E}^{\flat 7}$, Dm^9 , $\text{D}^{\flat 7}$.

Staff 2: Measure 5. Chords: Gsus^4 , Gm^7 , $\text{G}^{\flat 7}$, Fmaj^7 , $\text{B}^{\flat 9}$, C^6 .

Staff 3: Measure 9. Chord: N.C. . Solo break indicated by a dashed line.

Staff 4: Measure 13. Chords: E^{\flat} , D^7 , $\text{D}^{\flat \text{maj} 7}$, C^6 , Em^7 . Ends with a double bar line.