

Technical Requirements & Spoken Test Questions for Recorded Exams

The following list of technical requirements and questions should be performed to make up the Technical Work component of the exam. All Spoken Test Questions should be answered verbally to make up the Spoken Test component of the exam.

Electric Guitar

Step

Technical Requirements

Scales- 1 octave to be played ascending and descending:

E blues

C major

Chords

D major

E minor

B dominant 7th

Spoken Test Questions

All questions should be answered before or after the performance section:

- Play and name the following notes on your guitar:
 - 2rd fret on the D string
 - 3rd fret on the A string
 - 3rd fret on the B string
- Point to the following parts on your guitar:
 - Machine heads or tuning heads
 - Bridge

Grade 1

Technical Requirements

Scales- 2 octaves to be played ascending and descending:

E natural minor

G pentatonic major

A pentatonic minor

Chords

A major 7th

C major 7th

D major 7th

A major
G major
D minor
D dominant 7th

Spoken Test Questions

All questions should be answered before or after the performance section:

- Play and name the following notes on your guitar:
 - 3rd fret on the G string
 - 4th fret on the D string
- What does the gain function do on an amp?
- Name 2 controls on a standard guitar amp that would affect the tone
- What is the meaning of the term 'action' on the guitar

Grade 2:

Technical Requirements

Scales- 2 octaves to be played ascending and descending:

A natural minor
D pentatonic major
G blues
C major

Chords

F major 7th
G major 7th
F major
G dominant 7th
F# minor
D minor 7th

Spoken Test Questions

All questions should be answered before or after the performance section:

- Play and name the following notes on your guitar:
 - 5th fret on the A string
 - 6th fret on the B string
 - 7th fret on the D string
 - 9th fret on the G string
- Point to the following parts of your guitar:
 - Saddle
 - Nut
- How can you avoid 'fretbuzz' when you are playing?
- How might you set up your guitar amp so that the signal has plenty of gain but the overall volume isn't too loud?
- Name 2 types of guitar amp

Grade 3

Technical Requirements

Scales - 2 octaves to be played ascending and descending

G major

F# natural minor

Bb pentatonic major

F blues

Arpeggios - 2 octaves to be played ascending and descending

A major

Ab minor

Chords - all barre chords in 2 different fingerboard positions:

B major

Gb major

C# minor

F minor

Spoken Test Questions

All questions should be answered before or after the performance section:

- Play and name the following notes on your guitar:
 - 6th fret on the D string
 - 9th fret on the B string
 - 11th fret on the A string
 - 11th fret on the G string
- Name the notes in the A major arpeggio
- Name the notes in the B minor arpeggio
- Name a type of pedal that affects the gain?
- What is the difference between the volume dial on a single channel of an amp and the master volume? Why is this useful?

Grade 4

Technical Requirements

Scales - 2 octaves to be played ascending and descending:

B major: in 2 different fingerboard positions

C# natural minor: in 2 different fingerboard positions

Eb pentatonic major: in 2 different fingerboard positions

Bb blues: in 2 different fingerboard positions

Arpeggios - 2 octaves to be played ascending and descending:

Ab major 7: 1 fingerboard position.

A minor 7: 1 fingerboard position.

C dominant 7th: 1 fingerboard position.

Chords - all barre chords in 2 different fingerboard positions:

B minor 7
C major 7
F dominant 7

Spoken Test Questions

All questions should be answered before or after the performance section:

- Play and name the following notes on your guitar:
 - 14th fret on the D string
 - 15th fret on the B string
 - 14th fret on the E string
- Name the notes in the A pentatonic major scale
- Name the notes in the arpeggio of D minor 7th
- Explain how to change the strings on your guitar
- Explain a method of tuning your guitar
- Name 2 modulation effects?
- What does a reverb pedal do?
- Name a type of reverb

Grade 5

Technical Requirements

Scales - to be played ascending and descending.

Bb major: 1 octave in 3 different fingerboard positions

G harmonic minor: 2 octaves

A pentatonic minor: 1 octave in 5ths

Arpeggios – ascending and descending

B major 7: 1 octave in 2 different fingerboard positions

C dominant 7th: 1 octave in 2 different fingerboard positions

Chords all barre chords in 2 different fingerboard positions:

Bb minor 6

C major 6

F suspended 4th

Spoken Test Questions

All questions should be answered before or after the performance section:

- Name the note a perfect 4th above G
- Name the note a major 3rd above E
- Name the note a major 7th above F
- Name 4 chords from the key of A major
- Name 4 chords from the key of D major
- Explain how to adjust the 'action' on your guitar
- Name 2 effects commonly used when playing funk guitar
- What does a compressor pedal do?
- How can the tone be varied by changing the picking hand position?

Grade 6

Technical Requirements

Scales - to be played ascending and descending.

A natural minor: 1 octave in 5 different fingerboard positions

G mixolydian modal: 2 octaves

Bb major: 1 octave in 3rds

Arpeggios – ascending and descending

D major 9: 1 octave in 2 different fingerboard positions

Eb diminished 7th: 1 octave in 2 different fingerboard positions

Chords - all barre chords in 2 different fingerboard positions:

G minor 9

F# major 9

C diminished 7

G# augmented 5

Spoken Test Questions

All questions should be answered before or after the performance section:

- Name the note a perfect 4th above Ab
- Name the note a major 9th above E
- Name the note a major 6th above B
- Name a scale that could be used to solo over a chord sequence consisting of Am7 and D7
- Name a scale that could be used to solo over a chord sequence consisting of Gm7 and Cm7
- Explain the advantages and disadvantages of having heavy gauge strings on your guitar.
- Describe what a modulation pedal does and give an example pedal from this category.
- What pedal might be used to reduce hum, buzzing or feedback?
- Name 1 type of delay

Grade 7

Technical Requirements

Scales to be played ascending and descending.

C lydian: 2 octaves

Ab blues: 3 octaves

B mixolydian modal: 2 octaves in 2 different fingerboard positions

F natural minor: 1 octave in 8ths

Arpeggios – ascending and descending

B minor 7b5: 1 octave

F# dominant 7#5#9: 1 octave

Chords

G minor 7b9

Db dominant 7b5b9

Bm/A#

Eb/Bb

Spoken Test Questions

All questions should be answered before or after the performance section:

- Name the note a minor 6th above G
- Name the note a diminished 5th above D
- Name the note an augmented 5th above F
- Name the note a minor 3rd above F#
- Name the 'half-diminished' chord that occurs in the key of B minor
- Name 3 minor chords that occur in the key of A major
- What does a tremolo pedal do and what controls might you see on one?
- What is the difference between overdrive and distortion?
- What produces more gain, an overdrive pedal or a distortion pedal?
- What are the pros and cons of valve amps and transistor amps?

Grade 8

Technical Requirements

Scales - to be played ascending and descending.

G chromatic: 3 octaves

Ab major: 3 octaves

A lydian modal: 1 octave in 2 different fingerboard positions

C# mixolydian modal: 1 octave in 3 different fingerboard positions

D locrian modal: 2 octaves

Arpeggios

Bb dominant 13th: 1 octave

Chords

Bb major: 5 different fingerboard positions

F# dominant 7th: 5 different fingerboard positions

B dominant 13th: 2 different fingerboard positions

C minor 7#5

Spoken Test Questions

All questions should be answered before or after the performance section:

- Name the note a major 13th above G
- Name the note a diminished 5th above Bb
- Name the notes in the chord of Bm7b5
- Name the chords that occur in the key of Eb major
- What does a tremolo pedal do and what controls might you see on one?
- What is the difference between overdrive and distortion?
- What are the pros and cons of valve amps and transistor amps?
- Transpose the following chord sequence into the key of E major:
 - A - E - Bm - D - A