

Technical Requirements & Discussion Questions for Recorded Graded Exams

The following list of technical requirements should be performed to make up the Technical Work and Discussion components of the exam. Where not specified, candidates may choose which scales or arpeggios to perform but should, where possible, select a variety of different keys. Further guidelines on specific requirements for each grade can be found in the relevant LCME syllabus.

Classical Guitar
Step 1
Technical Requirements
Scales One-octave C major scale One-octave A harmonic minor scale
Step 2
Technical Requirements
Scales One-octave G major scale One-octave E harmonic minor scale Chords G major chord, open position E minor chord, open position
Grade 1
Technical Requirements
Scales One one-octave scale One two-octave scale Arpeggios One one-octave major arpeggio One one-octave minor arpeggio Chords One major chord, open position One minor chord, open position
Discussion Questions All questions should be answered before or after the performance section:

Which of the pieces you played/ sang today is your favourite and why?
What is the mood of this piece?
What does the dynamic marking at the beginning of this piece mean?

Grade 2:

Technical Requirements

Scales

One-octave D major scale
One two-octave scale

Arpeggios

One one-octave arpeggio
One two-octave arpeggio

Chords

Two chords, open position

Discussion Questions

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

- Which of the pieces you played/ sang today is your favourite and why?
- What is the mood of this piece?
- What does the dynamic marking at the beginning of this piece mean?

Grade 3:

Technical Requirements

Scales

Two two-octave scales
Two-octave Bb major scale and two-octave G melodic minor scale
One melodic theme

Arpeggios

Two two-octave arpeggios (one major, one minor)

Chords

Two major barre chords

Discussion Questions

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

- Which of the pieces you played/ sang today is your favourite and why?
- What is the mood of this piece?
- What does the dynamic marking at the beginning of this piece mean?

Grade 4

Technical Requirements

Scales

Two two-octave scales

Three-octave E harmonic minor scale

Two-octave Eb major scale and two-octave C melodic minor scale

One melodic theme

Arpeggios

Three-octave E minor arpeggio

Chords

Two major barre chords with different root notes

Discussion Questions

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

- Which of the pieces you played/ sang today is your favourite and why?
- Which was the trickiest part of the piece to learn and why?
- Talk me through the different parts of the guitar and how it works

Grade 5

Technical Requirements

Scales

One two-octave major scale

Two three-octave scales

Two-octave Ab major scale and two-octave F melodic minor scale

One melodic theme

Arpeggios

Two three-octave arpeggios

Chords

Two barre chords with different root notes (one major, one minor)

Discussion Questions

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

- Which of the pieces you played/ sang today is your favourite and why?
- Tell me about your approach to learning this piece, were there any particular difficulties you had to overcome? (musical or technical)
- What is the structure of this piece?
- Which historical period does this piece come from?

Grade 6

Technical Requirements

Scales

One three-octave scale

One-octave C major scale in either 3rds, 6ths, 8ths or 10ths

Two two-octave scales with different root notes (one major and one either harmonic or melodic minor)
two-octave B major scale and two-octave G# melodic minor scale

One melodic theme

Arpeggios

Two two-octave arpeggios with different root notes (one dominant 7th and one either major or minor)

Chords

Three barre chords with different root notes (one major, one minor and one dominant 7th)

Discussion Questions

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

- Which of the pieces you played/ sang today is your favourite and why? Do you find it challenging or rewarding to play? If so, why?
- Tell me about your approach to learning this piece, were there any particular difficulties you had to overcome? (musical or technical)
- Describe one melodic and harmonic feature of the music (such as sequence, melodic inversion, circle of 5ths or pedal points).
- Which historical period does this piece come from?

Grade 7

Technical Requirements

Scales

One two-octave scale

One three-octave scale

One-octave E harmonic minor scale in 3 different positions

One-octave A major scale in either 3rds, 6ths, 8ths or 10ths

Two-octave Db major scale and two-octave Bb melodic minor scale

One melodic theme

Arpeggios

One three-octave arpeggio

Chords

E minor chord in 3 different positions

Discussion Questions

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

- Which of the pieces you played/ sang today is your favourite and why? Do you find it challenging or rewarding to play? If so, why?
- Tell me about your approach to learning this piece such as use of certain techniques and aspects of interpretation.
- What is the structure of this piece?
- Describe one melodic and harmonic feature of the music (such as sequence, melodic inversion, circle of 5ths or pedal points).
- What do you know about the composer and the historical and stylistic context of the piece?

Grade 8

Technical Requirements

Scales

One two-octave scale

One three-octave scale

One-octave A major scale in 4 different positions

One-octave major scale in 3rds, 6ths, 8ths or 10ths

Three-octave F# major scale

Two-octave Eb melodic minor scale

Melodic theme

Arpeggios

Two two-octave arpeggios (one dominant 7th and one diminished 7th)

One three-octave arpeggio (major, minor or dominant 7th)

Chords

A major chord in 4 different positions

Discussion Questions

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

- Which of the pieces you played/ sang today is your favourite and why? Do you find it challenging or rewarding to play? If so, why?
- Tell me about your approach to learning this piece such as use of certain techniques and aspects of interpretation.
- Describe one melodic and harmonic feature of the music (such as sequence, melodic inversion, circle of 5ths or pedal points).
- What do you know about the composer of the piece and any other works by them?
- Tell me about the historical and stylistic context of the piece