

Technical Requirements & Discussion Questions for Recorded Graded Exams

Please note: The following set of technical work and discussion questions was revised and published on the 1st of May 2025.

The following list of technical requirements should be performed to make up the Technical Work component of the exam for:

- **Clarinet** (pp.1-5)
- **Classical Saxophone** (pp.6-10)
- **Flute** (pp. 11-14)
- **Oboe** (pp.15-18)
- **Recorder** (pp.19-22)
- **Bassoon** (pp.22-26)

Candidates may choose which scales or arpeggios to perform but should, where possible, select a variety of different keys. Close attention should be paid to instructions on articulation, dynamics and bowing. Further guidelines on specific requirements for each grade can be found in the relevant LCME repertoire list.

Clarinet

Grade 1

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major scales

One minor scale (harmonic or melodic)

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major arpeggios

One minor arpeggio

Option 2

Study: *Maybe Next Time* from 20 Crucial Clarinet Studies (Spartan Press)

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the mood of this piece?

Grade 2:

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen:

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major scales (one one-octave, one two-octave)

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

One major arpeggio

Two minor arpeggios

Option 2

Study: *Reveille* (Lesson 42) from A New Tune a Day for Clarinet (Boston/ Music Sales)

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- How would you describe the dynamics at the beginning of this piece?

Grade 3:

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen:

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major arpeggios

One minor arpeggio

Option 2

Study: Madden – *All at Sea* from 20 Crucial Clarinet Studies (Spartan Press)

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the time signature of this piece?

Grade 4

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen:

Scales – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Three major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – two tongued, two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One dominant 7th arpeggio

Option 2

Study: Madden – The Next Arrival from 20 Crucial Clarinet Studies (Spartan Press)

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Which was the trickiest part of the piece to learn and why?

Grade 5

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen:

Scales - at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Three major scales

Three minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

Option 2

Study: Madden – *Playing Catch Up*, from 20 Crucial Clarinet Studies (Spartan Press)

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Can you tell me which historical period this piece comes from?
- What is the form of this piece?

Grade 6

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Studies

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen:

Scales - at least three should be tongued and three slurred:

Three major scales

Three minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic)

One scale in 3rds

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

One dominant 7th arpeggio

Option 2

Studies: Rae - *Frenzy* from 40 Modern Solos for Clarinet (Universal Edition)

AND

Madden – *Opus Blues* from 20 Crucial Clarinet Studies (Spartan Press)

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What was the hardest thing about learning this piece and how did you overcome the difficulty?
- What do you know about the composer of this piece?

Grade 7

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Studies

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen:

Scales - at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two staccato:

Three major scales (including one three-octave scale)

Four minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic)

One scale in 3rds

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two staccato:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One dominant 7th arpeggio

One diminished 7th arpeggio

Option 2

Studies: Madden - *Dreamscape*, from 20 Crucial Clarinet Studies (Spartan Press)

AND

Madden – *Icing on the Cake* from 20 Crucial Clarinet Studies (Spartan Press)

Discussion Questions

- Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:
- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the historical and stylistic context of this piece and how did this affect your interpretation?
- Can you describe the form and main keys of this piece?

Grade 8

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales, Broken Chords and Arpeggios OR option 2: Studies

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen:

Scales -at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two staccato:

Three major scales

Three minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic)

One scale in 3rds

One chromatic scale

One whole tone scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two staccato:

Three major arpeggios

Three minor arpeggios

Two dominant 7th arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

Option 2

Studies: Rae – *Ad Libitum*, from 12 Modern Etudes (Universal Edition)

AND

Rae – *Chromatic Fantasia* from 12 Modern Etudes (Universal Edition)

Discussion Questions

- Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:
- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What can you tell me about the composer of this piece?
- What performance issues are there in interpreting the music of this period?
- Can you discuss the form and tonality of this piece?

Classical Saxophone

Grade 1

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Scale and Study

Option 1

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major scales

One minor scale (harmonic or melodic)

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major arpeggios

One minor arpeggio

Option 2

Scale: G major

Study: *Lavender's Blue* (in G major) from Complete Learn to Play Saxophone Manual (Gelling)

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the mood of this piece?

Grade 2:

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen, at least one two-octave scale and arpeggio should be performed:

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred

Two major scales (one one-octave, one two-octave)

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

One major arpeggio

Two minor arpeggios

Option 2

Scale: F major

Study: *Folk Dance* from Complete Learn to Play Saxophone Manual (Gelling)

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- How would you describe the dynamics at the beginning of this piece?

Grade 3:

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen, at least one two-octave scale and arpeggio should be performed

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred,

Two major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major arpeggios

One minor arpeggio

Option 2

Scale: C major

Study: *Swing Low Sweet Chariot* from Complete Learn to Play Saxophone Manual (Gelling)

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the time signature of this piece?

Grade 4

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen, at least two two-octave scales and arpeggios should be performed.

Scales – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Three major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – two tongued, two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

Option 2

Scale: A minor

Study: *El Condor Pasa* from Complete Learn to Play Saxophone Manual (Gelling)

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Which was the trickiest part of the piece to learn and why?

Grade 5

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen, at least two two-octave scales and arpeggios should be performed

Scales - at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Three major scales

Three minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One dominant 7th arpeggio

One diminished 7th arpeggio

Option 2

Scale: A minor

Study: *Perpetual Motion* from Complete Learn to Play Saxophone Manual (Gelling)

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Can you tell me which historical period this piece comes from?
- What is the form of this piece?

Grade 6

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen:

Scales - at least three should be tongued and three slurred:

Three major scales

Three minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic)

One chromatic scale

One whole tone scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

One dominant 7th arpeggio

Option 2

Scale: E minor (harmonic OR melodic)

Study: *Firefly Frolic* from *20 Sensational Saxophone Studies* (Madden)

OR

Latin Satin from *Complete Learn to Play Saxophone Manual* (Gelling)

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What was the hardest thing about learning this piece and how did you overcome the difficulty?
- What do you know about the composer of this piece?

Grade 7**Technical Requirements**

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen:

Scales - at least two should be tongued, two slurred:

Three major scales

Four minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic)

One chromatic scale

One whole tone scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two staccato:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One dominant 7th arpeggio

One diminished 7th arpeggio

Option 2

Scale: B major

Study: *Bridgewater* from *20 Sensational Saxophone Studies* (Madden)

OR

Siciliano (Bach) from *Complete Learn to Play Saxophone Manual* (Gelling)

Discussion Questions

- Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:
- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the historical and stylistic context of this piece and how did this affect your interpretation?
- Can you describe the form and main keys of this piece?

Grade 8

Technical Requirements

Either option 1: Scales and Arpeggios OR option 2: Study

Option 1 – a selection of different keys should be chosen:

Scales -at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Three major scales

Three minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic)

One chromatic scale

One scale in broken 3rds

One whole tone scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two staccato:

Three major arpeggios

Three minor arpeggios

Two dominant 7th arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

Option 2

Scale: Whole tone scale in C sharp

Study: *Favourite Games* from *20 Sensational Saxophone Studies* (Madden)

OR

Andante (No.29) from *Quarante-Huit Etudes* (Ferling/ Mule)

Discussion Questions

- Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:
- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What can you tell me about the composer of this piece?
- What performance issues are there in interpreting the music of this period?
- Can you discuss the form and tonality of this piece?

Flute

Grade 1

Technical Requirements

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

All three major scales

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

All three major arpeggios

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the mood of this piece?

Grade 2:

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

One major arpeggio

Two minor arpeggios

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- How would you describe the dynamics at the beginning of this piece?

Grade 3:

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the time signature of this piece?

Grade 4

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Three major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – two tongued, two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Which was the trickiest part of the piece to learn and why?

Grade 5

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Three major scales

Three minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One dominant 7th arpeggio

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Can you tell me which historical period this piece comes from?
- What is the form of this piece?

Grade 6

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least three should be tongued and three slurred:

Three major scales

Three minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

One dominant 7th arpeggio

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What was the hardest thing about learning this piece and how did you overcome the difficulty?
- What do you know about the composer of this piece?

Grade 7

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least two should be tongued, two slurred. At least one three octave scale should be performed:

Three major scales (including one three-octave scale)

Four minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued, two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

Two dominant 7th arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

Discussion Questions

- Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:
- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the historical and stylistic context of this piece and how did this affect your interpretation?
- Can you describe the form and main keys of this piece?

Grade 8

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales -at least two should be tongued, two slurred. At least one three-octave scale should be performed:

Four major scales

Four minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued, two slurred:

Three major arpeggios

Three minor arpeggios

Two dominant 7th arpeggios

Two diminished 7th arpeggios

Discussion Questions

- Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:
- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What can you tell me about the composer of this piece?
- What performance issues are there in interpreting the music of this period?
- Can you discuss the form and tonality of this piece?

Oboe

Grade 1

Technical Requirements

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

All three major scales

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

All three major arpeggios

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the mood of this piece?

Grade 2:

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

One major arpeggio

Two minor arpeggios

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- How would you describe the dynamics at the beginning of this piece?

Grade 3:

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued and one slurred:

Two major arpeggios

One minor arpeggios

One dominant 7th arpeggio

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the time signature of this piece?

Grade 4

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Three major scales – a selection of one-octave, a twelfth and 2 octave scales should be chosen

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic) – a selection of one-octave, a twelfth and 2 octave scales

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – two tongued, two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Which was the trickiest part of the piece to learn and why?

Grade 5

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Three major scales – a selection of twelfth and two-octave scales should be chosen

Three minor scales (harmonic or melodic) - a selection of twelfth and two-octave scales should be chosen

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One dominant 7th arpeggio

One augmented arpeggio

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Can you tell me which historical period this piece comes from?
- What is the form of this piece?

Grade 6

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least three should be tongued and three slurred:

Three major scales a selection of twelfth and two-octave scales should be chosen

Three minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic, twelfth and two-octave scales should be chosen One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued and two slurred:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

One dominant 7th arpeggio

One augmented arpeggio

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What was the hardest thing about learning this piece and how did you overcome the difficulty?
- What do you know about the composer of this piece?

Grade 7

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least two should be tongued, two slurred.

Three major scales- a selection of twelfth and two-octave scales should be chosen

Four minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic, twelfth and two-octave scales should be chosen

One chromatic scale

One whole tone scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two staccato:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

Two dominant 7th arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

One augmented arpeggio

Discussion Questions

- Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:
- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the historical and stylistic context of this piece and how did this affect your interpretation?
- Can you describe the form and main keys of this piece?

Grade 8

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales -at least two should be tongued, two slurred.

Three major scales – a selection of twelfth and two-octave scales should be chosen

Three minor scales - a selection of harmonic and melodic, twelfth and two-octave scales should be chosen
One chromatic scale

One whole tone scale

One octatonic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued, two slurred:

Three major arpeggios

Three minor arpeggios

Two dominant 7th arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

One augmented arpeggio

Discussion Questions

- Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:
- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What can you tell me about the composer of this piece?
- What performance issues are there in interpreting the music of this period?
- Can you discuss the form and tonality of this piece?

Recorder

Grade 1

Technical Requirements

Scales - one should be tongued, one slurred and one mixed:

All three major scales

Arpeggios - one should be tongued, one slurred and one mixed: All three major arpeggios

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the mood of this piece?

Grade 2:

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least one should be tongued, one slurred and one mixed Two major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic or melodic)

Arpeggios - one should be tongued, one slurred and one mixed

One major arpeggio

Two minor arpeggios

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- How would you describe the dynamics at the beginning of this piece?

Grade 3:

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least one should be tongued, one slurred and one mixed: Two major scales

Two minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic)

Arpeggios - at least one should be tongued, one slurred and one mixed: Two major arpeggios
One minor arpeggio
One dominant 7th arpeggio

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the time signature of this piece?

Grade 4

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales – at least one should be tongued, one slurred and one mixed:

Three major scales

Two minor scales (one harmonic and one melodic)

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least one should be tongued, one slurred and one mixed: Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Which was the trickiest part of the piece to learn and why?

Grade 5

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least two should be tongued and two slurred and two mixed:

Three major scales

Three minor scales - a selection of harmonic and melodic scales should be performed One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – two should be tongued, two slurred and one mixed:

Three major arpeggios

Three minor arpeggios

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Can you tell me which historical period this piece comes from?
- What is the form of this piece?

Grade 6

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two mixed:

Three major scales

Three minor scales (a selection of harmonic and melodic scales should be performed)

One chromatic scale

One scale in broken thirds

Arpeggios – two should be tongued, two slurred and two mixed:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

Two dominant 7th arpeggios

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What was the hardest thing about learning this piece and how did you overcome the difficulty?
- What do you know about the composer of this piece?

Grade 7

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales - at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two mixed:

Three major scales- a selection of twelfth and two-octave scales should be chosen

Two minor scales (one harmonic and one melodic)

Two scales in broken thirds

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two mixed:

Two major arpeggios

Two minor arpeggios

Three dominant 7th arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

Discussion Questions

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the historical and stylistic context of this piece and how did this affect your interpretation?
- Can you describe the form and main keys of this piece?

Grade 8

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales -at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two mixed:

Two major scales

Three minor scales - a selection of harmonic and melodic scales should be performed Two scales in broken thirds

One chromatic scale

Arpeggios – at least two should be tongued, two slurred and two mixed:

Two major arpeggios

Three minor arpeggios

Three dominant 7th arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggio

Discussion Questions

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What can you tell me about the composer of this piece?
- What performance issues are there in interpreting the music of this period?
- Can you discuss the form and tonality of this piece?

Bassoon

Grade 1

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales and Arpeggios - ascending and descending from memory

(suggested tempo: m.m. crotchet = 60 when played in quavers)

To be played tongued and slurred:

Two major scales

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the mood of this piece?

Grade 2:

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales and Arpeggios - ascending and descending from memory

(suggested tempo: m.m. crotchet = 60 when played in quavers)

To be played tongued and slurred:

Two major scales

Two minor scales (harmonic OR melodic)

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- How would you describe the dynamics at the beginning of this piece?

Grade 3:

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales and Arpeggios - ascending and descending from memory

(suggested tempo: m.m. crotchet = 60 when played in quavers)

To be played tongued and slurred:
Four major scales
Three minor scales (harmonic OR melodic)

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the time signature of this piece?

Grade 4

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales and Arpeggios - ascending and descending from memory
(*suggested tempo: m.m. crotchet = 60 when played in quavers*)

To be played tongued and slurred:

Seven major scales

Six minor scales (harmonic OR melodic)

One chromatic scale

Discussion Questions

Both questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Which was the trickiest part of the piece to learn and why?

Grade 5

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales and Arpeggios - ascending and descending from memory
(*suggested tempo: m.m. crotchet = 60 when played in quavers*)

To be played tongued and slurred:

Nine major scales

Nine minor scales (harmonic OR melodic)

One chromatic scale

One dominant 7th arpeggio

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- Can you tell me which historical period this piece comes from?
- What is the form of this piece?

Grade 6

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales and Arpeggios - ascending and descending from memory

(suggested tempo: m.m. crotchet = 60 when played in quavers)

To be played tongued and slurred:

Nine major scales

Nine minor scales (harmonic OR melodic)

One chromatic scale

Two dominant 7th arpeggios

One diminished 7th arpeggios

Discussion Questions

All questions should be answered before the chosen piece:

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What was the hardest thing about learning this piece and how did you overcome the difficulty?
- What do you know about the composer of this piece?

Grade 7

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales and Arpeggios - ascending and descending from memory

(suggested tempo: m.m. crotchet = 60 when played in quavers)

To be played tongued and slurred:

All major scales

All minor scales (harmonic OR melodic)

One chromatic scale

Seven dominant 7th arpeggio

Two diminished 7th arpeggio

Discussion Questions

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What is the historical and stylistic context of this piece and how did this affect your interpretation?
- Can you describe the form and main keys of this piece?

Grade 8

Technical Requirements

A selection of different keys should be performed

Scales and Arpeggios - ascending and descending from memory

(suggested tempo: m.m. crotchet = 60 when played in quavers)

To be played tongued and slurred:

All major scales

All minor scales (harmonic OR melodic)

Three chromatic scale

Five dominant 7th arpeggio

Three diminished 7th arpeggio

Discussion Questions

- Which of the pieces you played today is your favourite and why?
- What can you tell me about the composer of this piece?
- What performance issues are there in interpreting the music of this period?
- Can you discuss the form and tonality of this piece?