



**ANZCA**  
MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

# Performance Syllabus


# Introduction

- The Performance Syllabus is offered for all instruments.
- Examinations consist of four (4) pieces only in every level.
- There are no other requirements.
- This format allows teachers to tailor their students technical work according to the keys and requirements of the selected pieces.
- Examinations are offered from Grade One to Grade Eight and Performance Diploma.
- There are no theory or other requisites at any level. (Programme notes required at Diploma.)


# Entries are submitted as

- Pianoforte Performance
- Guitar Performance
- Singing Performance etc.

There is no distinction between “classical” and “modern”.



	INSTRUMENT	GRADE	FEE
Classical	Piano Performance		
Modern			




	INSTRUMENT	GRADE	FEE
Classical			
Modern	Guitar Performance		

# Programme Requirements

Requirements may vary slightly from instrument to instrument.

This is because the “source” syllabuses of some instruments do not have a List D, and some do not have both a Classical and Modern stream.

**PLEASE CHECK INDIVIDUAL SYLLABUSES FOR EXACT REQUIREMENTS. THESE CAN BE FOUND AT THE END OF EACH SYLLABUS.**

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- Pieces are to be chosen from the List/Categories of existing ANZCA syllabuses.
  - Pieces may be selected from a mixture of the Classical and Modern syllabuses.
  - **A contrasting programme is expected.**  
Students must choose from at least 3 different lists/categories, and the pieces should show a range of tempi, characters/styles and technical elements.
  - One free choice is available in every level.



## *Free Choice – All Instruments*

Students may use one free choice piece which does not have to be from the syllabus as long as it is of correct standard for the grade.

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## *Piano and Flute*

Performance Examinations must include a **List A** from the Classical Syllabus.

The other three pieces can be chosen from both the Classical and Modern syllabuses. Pieces must be chosen from different Lists/Categories, and be contrasting in style and character.

There is also one FREE CHOICE available.

## *Singing*

Performance Examinations must include one piece from a Musical or a Traditional Folk Song or from the List A Classical Syllabus.

The other three pieces can be chosen from the Classical or Modern Syllabus; one of these can be a FREE CHOICE.

## *Guitar*

Performance Examinations must include a List A from the Classical or Modern Syllabus.

The other three pieces can be chosen from the Classical or Modern syllabuses.

There is also one FREE CHOICE available.

## *Drums, Strings, Clarinet, Saxophone*

Performance Examinations require one piece from each Lists A, B, & C.

The fourth piece may be from List D where available, or a free choice from any source, including another piece from the above lists.

# Assessment

- As with most ANZCA practical examinations, Performance exams will be marked out of 100, and use the existing result divisions.
- Each List piece will be marked out of 25.
- Each List piece will be assessed on five criteria. Each of the criteria will be given an individual mark out of 5, to give a total mark out of 25 for each piece.
- The criteria will include elements such as accuracy, timing and rhythm, expression and interpretation etc.
- Each piece will be given a comment.
- A substantial comment on the overall performance will be included.

## PERFORMANCE EXAMINATION

TITLE	Pitch/Notes	Tempo & Rhythm	Tone & Dynamics	Phrasing & Expression	Style & Character	LIST SCORE
LIST A						
List A comment						
LIST B						
List B comment						
LIST C						
List C comment						
LIST D						
List D comment						
						TOTAL SCORE
<b>OVERALL PERFORMANCE</b>						<b>100</b>

ASSESSMENT: First Class honours 85-100  
 honours 80-84  
 Credit 75-84  
 Pass 65-74  
 Not Satisfactory

EXAMINER

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

# Criteria for assessing each category

## ***Pitch/Notes***

- Accuracy of note reading and Performance, including observance of key signature.
- Accuracy, security and evenness of intonation
- Choice of notes/scales during improvisation/embellishment.



## ***Timing & Rhythm***

- Accuracy of general note values/rhythm reading, including observance of time signature.
- Time signature observance and control.
- Evenness and fluency.
- Sense of pulse.

## ***Tone & Dynamics***

- Observance of written dynamics.
- Control, quality and projection.
- Evidence of planned dynamic variation.

## ***Phrasing & Expression***

- Observance of phrasing and articulation.
- Shaping of phrases, including evidence of musical planning.
- Use of expression, suitable to the style of the work.

## ***Style & Character***

- Understanding and evocation of the characteristics of the style.
- Level of musical involvement.
- Confidence in performance.

# Accompaniment Requirements

Existing accompaniment requirements will apply to the performance syllabus.

## *Backing tracks*

For pianoforte, backing tracks may be used as follows:

- Grades One and Two – two (2) pieces;
- Grades Three to Diploma – three (3) pieces.

# Examination Times

- Grades One: 10 minutes per grade
- Grades Two & Three: 15 minutes per grade
- Grades Four to Six: 20 minutes per grade
- Grades Seven & Eight: 30 minutes per grade
- Performance Diploma: 60 minutes

While these times are mostly shorter than those for conventional practical exams, they should still allow students increased scope for inclusion of more repeats, consistent with the “performance” focus of the exams.

For example, Singing candidates may choose to perform more verses or choruses of a song, or instrumentalists may like to add improvised solo sections.

# Conclusion

The Performance Syllabus programme has been devised to appeal to those students focused on performance, but who still wish to work through a structured progression of levels. While considerable freedom has been incorporated into the choice of pieces, a mandatory study type list and an expectation of a high standard of performance technique will ensure the credibility of Performance Syllabus examination results.