

# ANZCA Singing Technical Work: 2024 Edition

**Guidelines** for the overall Technical Work section are given in the **Preface pages** at the end of this document. These include important revisions to the use of vowels, which are also described in each grade below.

At all levels, the candidate can choose from the given keys for breathing exercises, scales, modes, arpeggios, etc.

## Preparatory

- **Drastically Dynamic:** This exercise has been reduced to the first eight bars only.

## Preliminary

- No changes.

## Grade One

- **Vowels No.3:** This exercise has been reduced to three systems (starting on C/Db/D) only. This can be transposed to begin on Db or D to suit the voice.
- **Dreadful Dynamics** has been deleted.
- **Vowel selection:** The *Major Scale*, *Major Arpeggio* and *Vocalise 1* exercises may be performed using any vowel of the candidate's choice, but **at least two (2) different vowels** must be chosen.

## Grade Two

- **Vowels No.4:** This exercise has been reduced to three systems (starting on C/Db/D) only. This can be transposed to begin on Db or D to suit the voice. The tempo has also been reduced to **80 bpm**.
- **Dramatic Arpeggios:** This exercise has been reduced to three systems (starting on C/Db/D) only. This can be transposed to begin on Bb, B, Db or D to suit the voice.
- **Chromatic Quavers** has been deleted.
- **Vowel selection:** The *Harmonic Minor Scale*, *Dramatic Arpeggios* and *Vocalise 2* exercises may be performed using any vowel of the candidate's choice, but **at least two (2) different vowels** must be chosen.

## Grade Three

- **Criminally Chromatic:** Tempo has been reduced to **76 bpm**.
- **Vocalise 12:** Tempo has been reduced to **72 bpm**.
- **86 Notes** has been deleted.
- **Vowel selection:** All exercises may be performed using any vowel of the candidate's choice, but **at least three (3) different vowels** must be chosen.

## Grade Four

- **Arpeggios 35:** Tempo has been reduced to **96 bpm**.
- **Brave and Bold** has been deleted.
- **Optimism:** Tempo has been reduced to **120 bpm**, and the dot repeats have been removed.
- **Vowel selection:** All exercises may be performed using any vowel of the candidate's choice, but **at least three (3) different vowels** must be chosen.

## Grade Five

- **Moody and Minor:** A high-voice option in Eb minor has been added.
- **Arpeggios 36:** Tempo has been reduced to **92 bpm**.
- **Vocalise 11:** Tempo has been reduced to **115 bpm**.
- **Vowel selection:** All exercises may be performed using any vowel of the candidate's choice, but **at least three (3) different vowels** must be chosen.

## Grade Six

- **Slurs 56 – Chromatic** has been deleted.
- **Chromatic 40:** Tempo has been reduced to **100 bpm**.
- The candidate chooses **one (1)** of the **Various Turns** exercises only (i.e. 46 or 47).
- **Vowel selection:** All exercises (except the vocalises, which are set to 'ah') may be performed using any vowel of the candidate's choice, but **at least three (3) different vowels** must be chosen in addition to 'ah'.

## Grade Seven

- **Various Turns 48:** Medium-voice (E major) and low-voice (C major) options have been added.
- **Leaps and Bounds:** Medium-voice (D major) and low-voice (C major) options have been added.
- **The Mordent** and **The Pralltriller:** A low-voice option (beginning on G) has been added.
- The candidate chooses **either The Mordent or The Pralltriller** (i.e. one only).
- **Vocalise 11:** A low-voice option (Bb major) has been added.
- **Vocalise 10:** A medium/low-voice option (D major) has been added.
- **Vocalise 16:** A low-voice option (D major) has been added.
- **Vowel selection:** All exercises (except the vocalises, which are set to 'ah') may be performed using any vowel of the candidate's choice, but **at least three (3) different vowels** must be chosen in addition to 'ah'.

## Grade Eight

- **Various Turns 49** and **50:** A low-voice option (E major) has been added.
- The candidate chooses **one (1)** of the **Various Turns** exercises only (i.e. 49 or 50).
- **Vocalise 13:** A low-voice option (G major) has been added.
- **Vocalise 15:** A low-voice option (G major) has been added.
- **99:** Tempo has been reduced to **120 bpm**.
- **Vowel selection:** All exercises (except the vocalises and 99, which are set to 'ah') may be performed using any vowel of the candidate's choice, but **at least three (3) different vowels** must be chosen in addition to 'ah'.

The following Preface pages from the 2024 edition summarise the criteria for selection of keys and vowels across all levels.

# Preface

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## **Introduction**

This technical work manual has been prepared as a supplement to ANZCA's Singing syllabus. It is designed to enhance the knowledge, musicality and technical ability of all vocal students, whether studying Classical or Modern stream.

## **Guidelines**

All tests should be prepared according to the following guidelines.

### **Keys**

Tests presented in one key only may not be transposed.

Where a test is presented in multiple keys, candidates should choose the key most suited to their vocal range and ability. The chosen key should be both suitable and challenging to the candidate.

### **Vowels**

All tests should be performed using a pure Italian vowel, presented phonetically as:

- A – 'ah', as in *umbrella*
- E – 'eh', as in *fair*
- I – 'ee', as in *team*
- O – 'oh', as in *cost*
- U – 'ooh', as in *cool*

Where specified in the score, the given vowel must be used, except where marked "(e.g.)".

For all other exercises, the candidate may use a vowel of their choice. From Grade One, the following minimum number of vowels must be used across the exercises in the grade:

- Grades One and Two – at least two different vowels.
- Grades Three to Five – at least three different vowels.
- Grades Six to Eight – at least three different vowels in addition to 'ah' (which is set for the vocalises).

### **Examples:**

- A Grade One candidate might sing the Major Scale on 'ah', and the Major Arpeggio on 'oh'. Vocalise 1 could then be on any vowel.
- A Grade Seven candidate might sing the Melodic Minor Scale on 'eh', Various Turns 48 on 'oh', and Leaps and Bounds on 'ooh'. The Mordent/Pralltriller could then be on any vowel (including 'ah'.)

### **Breathing, Phrasing, Dynamics and Articulations**

Phrasing, breath, dynamic and articulation marks and rests should be strictly adhered to. The candidate's ability to observe these accurately will be taken into consideration.

Full breath: ✓      Catch breath or break of line: •

*Continued*

**Accompaniments and Recordings**

The following recordings for all exercises are available from [www.anzca.com.au](http://www.anzca.com.au).

**Demonstration tracks** contain the accompaniment and vocal line. These should be used as guides and for practice, but cannot be used in the exam room.

**Performance tracks** include—

- For unaccompanied items (breathing exercises, scales, etc.): A starting note and one-bar count-in.
  - For accompanied items: Recordings of the notated accompaniments, including a starting note and count-in where applicable. The use of these tracks is preferred for exams, but live accompaniment can also be played from the score.
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