

Marking criteria

Grades Initial to 8	Criteria for each of the pieces presented				
	<i>Pattern</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Tone</i>	<i>Shape</i>	<i>Performance</i>
Distinction 27-30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly accurate pattern Fills have stylish and inventive note choices* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rhythmic character and feel well conveyed Convincing groove Fluent, with flexibility in fills where appropriate* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well projected Confident use of tonal qualities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressive, idiomatic musical shaping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assured Fully committed Vivid communication of character and style Idiomatic continuation, development and solos*
Merit 24-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Largely accurate pattern Fills have controlled note choices* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good sense of rhythm and feel throughout Sustained, effective pulse and groove Controlled rhythmic placement within fills* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly controlled and consistent Good use of tonal qualities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear musical shaping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive Carrying musical conviction Character and style communicated Effective continuation, development and solos*
Pass 20-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally correct pattern Fills have some contour* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall rhythmic accuracy and correct feel Suitable pulse Generally stable rhythmic placement in fills* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally reliable Adequate use of tonal qualities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some realisation of musical shape and/or detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally secure, prompt recovery from any slips Some musical involvement Continuation, development and solos attempted*
Below Pass 17-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent pattern errors Fills lack contour* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaccurate rhythms and/or feel Pulse not sustained Unsuitable rhythmic placement in fills* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uneven and/or unreliable Inadequate use of tonal qualities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient musical shaping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insecure, inadequate recovery from any slips Insufficient musical involvement Ineffective or no continuation, development and solos*
13-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Largely inaccurate pattern Fills lack coherence* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unstable rhythms and/or no sense of feel Pulse not established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serious lack of tonal control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Musical shaping largely unrealised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lacking continuity No musical involvement
10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly inaccurate pattern Fills very incoherent or absent* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncontrolled rhythms and/or feel Incoherent pulse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No tonal control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No shape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unable to continue for more than a short section
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No work offered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No work offered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No work offered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No work offered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No work offered

* where applicable

Grades Initial to 8	Criteria for the performance as a whole <i>Communication</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Delivery</i>
Distinction 27-30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consistently well-projected and involved, showing strong performance commitment and conviction ● Effective sequence and pacing of chosen programme; consistently good performance awareness and control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consistently effective stylistic characterisation; interpretative demands of the programme well met ● Consistently good awareness and control of textures and ensemble, with effective blending and balancing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consistently assured and controlled; technical challenges of the programme well met ● Consistently effective instrument management, fully responsive to the performance situation
Merit 24-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mainly well-projected and involved, showing positive performance commitment ● Largely effective sequence and pacing of chosen programme; mainly good performance awareness and control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mostly effective stylistic realisation; interpretative demands of the programme largely well met ● Mainly good awareness and control of textures and ensemble, with appropriate blending and balancing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Effectively controlled; most technical challenges of the programme well met ● Mostly effective instrument management, mainly responsive to the performance situation
Pass 20-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Projection and involvement sufficient to maintain an overall sense of performance ● Sequence and pacing of chosen programme shows adequate performance awareness and control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sufficient stylistic realisation to meet the interpretative demands of the programme ● Adequate awareness and control of textures and ensemble, with sufficient blending and balancing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Generally controlled; technical challenges of the programme securely met overall ● Sufficiently reliable instrument management to meet the demands of the performance situation
Below Pass 15-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Insufficient projection or sense of involvement to maintain a sense of performance ● Sequence and/or pacing of chosen programme shows inadequate performance awareness or control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stylistic realisation not equal to the interpretative demands of the programme ● Insufficient awareness or control of textures and ensemble, and/or unsuitable blending and balancing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consistency of control insufficient to meet the technical challenges of the programme ● Insufficiently reliable instrument management to meet the demands of the performance situation
10-14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sense of performance largely absent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stylistic realisation and/or control of textures and ensemble largely absent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Very insecure technical control and/or instrument management