

RIAM Music Theory Examination Paper

Grade 8

May 2025

Candidates should answer all questions. All answers must be written on this paper.

Candidate's name: _____ Total marks 100

N.B. Answer **either** question **1** or **2**. Do **not** answer both questions.

- 1** Using this opening, compose a 16-bar melody. Include a modulation to any closely related key. Phrase the completed melody. Add tempo and expression marks. (Copy to the staves below.)

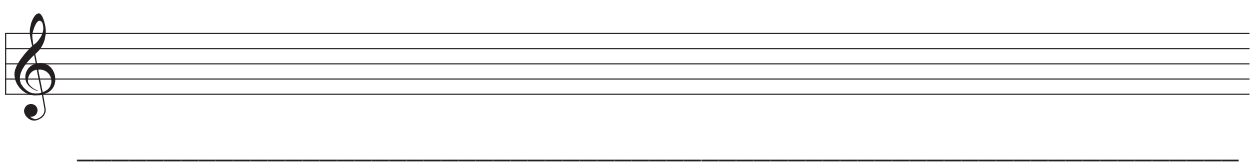
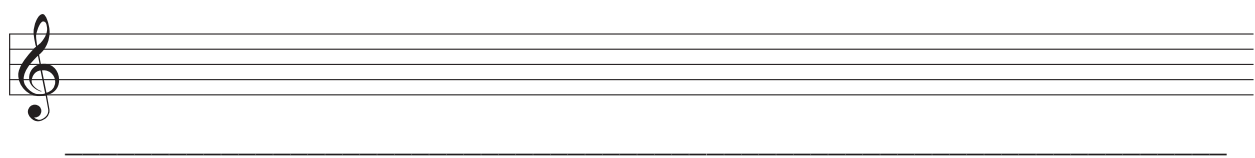
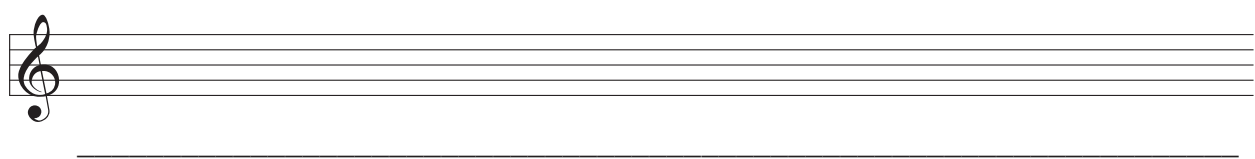
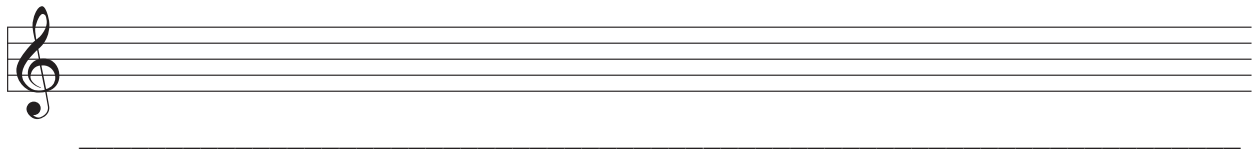


Or

- 2** Compose a tune for this verse. Write each syllable under the note(s) to which it is to be sung.

*"I hear the voice of summer
singing a song of flowers
Singing a song of meadows
where buttercups spring in showers."*

Lenore Hetrick



- 3 Choose suitable chords to accompany the following melody. Indicate the chords by roman numerals. Write in the complete bass line adding some passing or auxiliary notes where suitable (no inner parts needed).

Scottish Air
(adapted)

Numerals _____

Numerals _____

15

- 4 Analyse the chording implied by the given soprano and bass lines by using roman numerals. Complete the harmonisation by adding parts for alto and tenor voices.

Numerals _____

15

5 Complete the treble over the given bass to create a simple two-part texture.

The first exercise is a four-measure phrase in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The bass line is given, and the treble line is partially filled with notes and rests, ending with a slur over the last two measures.

Measure	Bass	Treble
1	Whole note Bb2	Whole note Bb4
2	Quarter note Bb2, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb4	Quarter note Bb4, Quarter note Bb5, Quarter note Bb5, Quarter note Bb5
3	Half note Bb2, Half note Bb3	Half note Bb4, Half note Bb5
4	Quarter note Bb2, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb4	Quarter note Bb4, Quarter note Bb5, Quarter note Bb5, Quarter note Bb5

The second exercise is a four-measure phrase in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The bass line is given, and the treble line is empty for completion.

Measure	Bass	Treble
1	Quarter note Bb2, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb4	
2	Quarter note Bb2, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb4	
3	Quarter note Bb2, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb4	
4	Quarter note Bb2, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb3, Quarter note Bb4	

6 Study this Bach Chorale. Then answer the questions that follow.

The musical score is for a Bach Chorale in D major, 4/4 time. It consists of 11 measures. The first system contains measures 1-4. The second system contains measures 5-8. The third system contains measures 9-11. Three sections are boxed and labeled: X (measures 5-8), Y (measures 9-10), and Z (measures 10-11). Chords marked with an asterisk (*) are in measures 1, 2, 3, and 4.

- a (i) Name the tonic key. _____
- (ii) Name the keys to which the music modulates in the boxed sections marked X, Y and Z on the music.
- X _____ Y _____ Z _____
- b Using roman numerals, describe the chords marked with * in these bars. All are in the tonic key.
- bar 1 (beat 2) _____ bar 1 (beat 4) _____
- bar 2 (beat 2, first quaver) _____ bar 2 (beat 2, second quaver) _____
- c On the music draw a circle around the following:
- (i) An example of an accented passing note. Mark it **P**
- (ii) An example of a suspension. Mark it **S**
- (iii) In bar 11 find an auxiliary note. Mark it **A**
- d Name the final cadence. _____

re 8 continued.

This musical score page contains measures 8 through 12 of the orchestral piece 'The Dance of the Hours'. The score is written for a full orchestra, including woodwinds, brass, percussion, and strings. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 2/4. The score is divided into systems, with measures 8-9 on the first system, measures 10-11 on the second, and measure 12 on the third. The instruments are listed on the left: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Fg.), Cor Anglais (Cor.), Trumpet (Tr.), Trombone (Trb.), Timpani (Timp.), Violin I (VI. I), Violin II (VI. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vlc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The score features various dynamics, including *fz* (forzando), *ff* (fortissimo), and *a 2* (second ending). The woodwinds and strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, while the brass instruments provide harmonic support with sustained notes and chords. The percussion section, including the timpani, plays a steady rhythm. The overall texture is dense and rhythmic, characteristic of the 'Dance of the Hours'.

- 7 The score extract on page 5 is from Schubert's Rosamunde Overture Op. 33. Study the score, then answer the following questions.

- a Give the English name of each of the brass instruments:

Cor. _____

Tr. _____

Trb. _____

- b How many woodwind instruments are needed to play this extract? _____

- c How many brass instruments are needed to play this extract? _____

- d Define the following terms and signs found on the score:

<i>ff</i> _____	<i>a 2</i> _____
<i>fz</i> _____	 _____

- e Re-write bar 1 of the Vla. part in the bass clef.



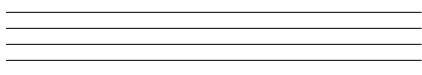
- f Re-write bar 1 of the first Trb. part in the treble clef.



- g Re-write bar 1 of the Cb. part at concert pitch.



- h Re-write the Timp. part of bar 5 as it is played.



- i The alto clef is used by the _____ part.

The tenor clef is used by the _____ part.