

LCM Exams

Specimen Jazz Aural Tests: Grade 1

Rhythm and Improvisation Exercise No.1: Four in a Bar

First, clap the set rhythms:

DOWN BEAT

1 2 3 4

BACK BEAT

1 2 3 4

When you listen to various types of music (e.g. marches, traditional and modern jazz, pop, Latin American music, etc.) try to work out whether it is 'down beat' or 'back beat'.

Rhythm

Refer to *Rhythm and Improvisation Exercise No.1: Four in a Bar* in the Handbook [reproduced above].

The examiner will count in and play a short piece, with emphasis on beats 1 and 3 ('down beat') OR beats 2 and 4 ('back beat'). Candidates will be asked to:

- 1 identify the piece as 'down beat' or 'back beat'. [2 marks]

The candidate may **not** refer to the Handbook during this section.


(a) Down beat $\frac{4}{4}$ Count in 1 2 3 4

(b) Back beat $\frac{4}{4}$ Count in 1 2 3 4

Pitch

The examiner will play a note (C, F or G), followed by the note a major 3rd or a perfect 5th above. Candidates will be asked to:


2(a) identify the note by name or by interval number. [2 marks]



5th 3rd 3rd 5th 3rd 5th

The examiner will play a note (C, F or G). Candidates will be asked to:

2(b) sing a major 3rd or perfect 5th above, as requested by the examiner. [2 marks]



Sing the 5th above. Sing the 3rd above. Sing the 3rd above. Sing the 5th above.

Two notes of different pitches will be played, one after the other. Candidates will be asked to:

2(c) identify as 'first' or 'second' which of the two notes is EITHER the higher OR the lower, at the examiner's discretion. [1 mark]

The two notes will be played again. Candidates will be asked to:

2(d) sing back one of the two notes (EITHER the first OR the second, at the examiner's discretion). [1 mark]



Sing the second note. Sing the first note. Sing the second note. Sing the first note.