

Grade 5

In Grade 5, the improvisation & interpretation tests contain a small amount of sight reading. This consists of a two bar section of rhythm notation to be found at the beginning of each test. You will be asked to play the chords in the rhythms indicated and complete the test using an improvised line made up of chords and lead lines where indicated. This is played to a backing track of no more than eight bars. You have 30 seconds to prepare and then you will be allowed to practise through on the first playing of the backing track, before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track. This test is continuous with a one bar count in at the beginning and after the practice session.

Example 1

CD 1 Track 43

♩ = 90 *Rock*

Chords in rhythm shown

Improvise rhythmic chords

Am C F E⁷

Am C F E⁷

Lead Solo/Melody

C G F E⁷ Am

Example 2

CD 1 Track 44

♩ = 90 *Rock*

Chords in rhythm shown

Improvise rhythmic chords

B⁵ A⁵ Em D A

B⁵ A⁵ Em E^b D

Lead Solo/Melody

B⁵ A⁵ Em B⁵ A⁵ B⁵

Example 3

CD 1 Track 45

♩ = 75 *Funk*

Chords in rhythm shown

Improvise rhythmic chords

Am C F G E⁷

Am C F G E⁷ F

Lead Solo/Melody

F G C E⁷ F G Am

Example 4

CD 1 Track 46

♩ = 70 *Jazz*

Chords in rhythm shown

Improvise rhythmic chords

G C⁷ G G⁷

C⁷ G⁷ Am⁷ Bm⁷ B^bm⁷

Lead Solo/Melody

Am⁷ D⁷ G⁷ Am⁷ D⁷ G⁷

Example 5

CD 1 Track 47

$\text{♩} = 80$ *Rock*

Chords in rhythm shown

Improvise rhythmic chords

E⁵ A⁵ F[♯]m⁷ Bm

Lead Solo/Melody

D A Bm G A D

Example 6

CD 1 Track 48

$\text{♩} = 70$ *Blues*

Chords in rhythm shown

Improvise rhythmic chords

A⁷ D⁷ A⁷ D⁷ A⁷

A⁷ D⁷ A⁷ F⁷ E⁷

Lead Solo/Melody

A⁷ D⁷ A⁷ A⁷ D⁷ A⁷