



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

Department of Music Teaching and Learning

Sample Content: Music Education Skills Assessment
EASTMAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Undergraduate applicants will demonstrate skills “a” through “e”; and

Masters Degree applicants will demonstrate skills “a” through “f” for their Music Education audition:

- a) read rhythm patterns, with or without syllables
- b) read by singing tonal patterns, with or without syllables
- c) read by singing major and minor melodies, with or without syllables
- d) improvise using the primary instrument; the improvisation should be based on the harmonic progression of the tune provided. (If the primary instrument is piano, improvisation should include use of both hands.)
- e) harmonize a folk melody (provided) at the keyboard
- f) Sing the melody to:
 - 1) “Happy Birthday”
 - 2) “America” (My Country ‘Tis of Thee)

Using both hands, accompany yourself at the piano using a harmonic progression *that does not include the melody*. You may use notation for this performance. A brief introduction to the piece is required.

Tonal Pattern Reading:

1. Perform the following patterns with tonal syllables or with a neutral syllable. (The appropriate tonality will be established for you).

Tonal Patterns in C Major

Two staves of musical notation in C Major. The first staff contains four measures with notes and accidentals corresponding to the chords C, F, G7, and C. The second staff contains four measures with notes and accidentals corresponding to the chords F, F, G7, and C.

Tonal Patterns in D Minor

Two staves of musical notation in D Minor. The first staff contains four measures with notes and accidentals corresponding to the chords Dm, Gm, A7, and Dm. The second staff contains four measures with notes and accidentals corresponding to the chords Gm, Gm, A7, and Dm.

Reading:

1. Sing the following selection(s). (The appropriate tonality and meter will be established for you.)

1. **Moderato**

Two staves of musical notation in G Major, 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes a crescendo (*cresc.*) marking. The second staff begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes an accent (>) marking. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes with various phrasing slurs.

2. Moderato

Musical score for exercise 2, Moderato, in 6/8 time. The piece consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a *cresc.* marking. The second staff features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The melody is characterized by eighth and sixteenth notes, with several phrases connected by slurs.

3. Moderato

Musical score for exercise 3, Moderato, in 3/4 time. The piece consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and ends with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The second and third staves continue the melody, with the third staff ending with a *dim.* (diminuendo) and *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic. The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some slurs and phrasing marks.

4. Adagio

Musical score for exercise 4, Adagio, in common time. The piece consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic. The melody is slow and features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with several phrases connected by slurs. The second staff continues the piece, ending with a final note.

Improvisation:

1. Perform one of the following selections on your instrument.
2. With the melody in mind, perform an improvised melody based on the harmonic progression.

1. Long Long Ago

Two staves of music for 'Long Long Ago'. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written on a treble clef. The harmonic progression is indicated by chords Eb, Bb7, and Eb above the notes.

2. Ach du Leiber Augustine

Three staves of music for 'Ach du Leiber Augustine'. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written on a treble clef. The harmonic progression is indicated by chords Eb, Bb7, Eb, Eb, Bb7, Eb, Bb7, and Eb above the notes.

3. Joshua

Four staves of music for 'Joshua'. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written on a treble clef. The harmonic progression is indicated by chords Dm, A7, and Dm above the notes. The piece concludes with the instruction 'D.C. al fine'.

Harmonization:

1. Perform the following melody(s) on the piano.
2. Provide an appropriate underlying harmony while performing the melody in the right hand.

1. This Old Man



2. Home on the Range

