

Yamaha Grade Examination System

Electone Performance Grade

Grade 8 Course-A

SYLLABUS

Valid from 2011

Current until further notice

Issued by authority of the

 **YAMAHA MUSIC FOUNDATION**

Preface

Yamaha Music Foundation is an organization established by the authority of Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology for the purpose of promoting music education and music popularization. Its unique, systematic teaching method and teacher training programs are highly evaluated not only in Japan but also in other countries.

The Yamaha Grade Examination System has been developed to enable students and teachers to ensure their own progress and thereby obtain self-confidence in their own music studies.

The contents of Electone Performance Grade 10-6 examinations are designed to cover various kinds of elements of musical knowledge and indicate the direction that the students should follow.

The result of the examination will help the applicants to acquire the richer ability of music.

The YAMAHA GRADE EXAMINATION SYSTEM consists of thirteen grade levels, Grade 13 to Grade 1. The Examination evaluates the performing ability of the music lovers in general; the performing ability and the musical knowledge and techniques required for the instructors of the fundamentals stage; and also the performing competence of the professional musicians.

Both Piano and Electone Performance Grades are held from Grade 13 to Grade 3. Grade 13 to Grade 6 are for the musical lovers and the students of music schools; Grade 5 to Grade 3 are the professional grades for those who intend to be the instructors. Fundamentals Grades are also in the higher stage for instructor qualification which requires comprehensive musical knowledge and performance. Those who intend to be instructors of Yamaha Music Education System must obtain Grade 5 or higher in either Piano or Electone Performance Grade and the Fundamentals Grade as well.

Difference between the Course-A and Course-B

There are two types of the Electone Performance Grades 10-6: Course-A and Course-B. Applicants choose and apply for one of them, and take the exam.

Course-A is performance-oriented and the subjects are Free Selection, Compulsory piece and Improvisation (arrangement).

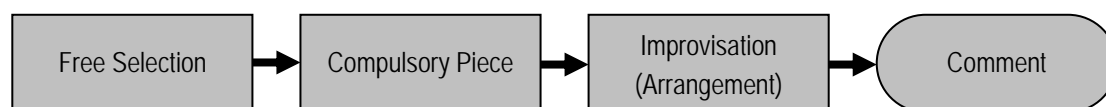
Course-B is comprehensive and the subjects are Free Selection, Sight Playing, Accompaniment / Improvisation and Hearing.

Even though there is a difference between Course-A and B as above, the musical requirements of both courses are very high and it would be a great encouragement to applicants.

Yamaha Grade Examination System

Electone Performance Grade 8 Course-A

EXAMINATION PROCEDURE



I. FREE SELECTION

Candidates prepare three pieces, and will be asked to play two chosen by the examiners from the pieces prepared.

Note:

- Pieces for Free Selection should be prepared from pieces that are in Yamaha publications and the grade level is indicated, or pieces that are the same level as Grade 8.
Pieces that are in Yamaha Music Education System's textbooks and meet the level of each grade can be included.
- Pieces above are recommendable to be prepared, but the following pieces, for example, can be prepared instead;
 - Pieces in different levels of the grade, e.g. a) Grade 7 level piece for Grade 8 exam
b) Grade 9 level piece for Grade 8 exam
- One candidate's own composition/arrangement can be included.
- No pieces with a support performance data can be prepared. Use of MDR for playing back a recorded performance and use of XG support are not acceptable.
- Selection of the pieces should be made from as large an area as possible, e.g. eras, composers, styles etc.
- Candidates are recommended to bring scores of the pieces prepared. Examiners may use when giving comments.
- Performing from memory is optional but advisable.
- Setting of FEET (octave setting of the voice), assignment of U.K. and L.K. etc. can be changed, but in a musical manner.

II. COMPULSORY PIECE

Candidates prepare one compulsory piece from the pieces for Grade 8.

Note:

- Compulsory pieces for Grade 8 are in this syllabus, pp.4-7.
- Candidates should use their discretion in considering how they express the piece, and in setting an appropriate registration that is based on their musical expression.

Grade 8 Course-A Compulsory Piece

This compulsory piece is valid until December 31, 2013

Black Bean Tango

Masaharu Kikuchi

$\text{♩} = 112$

Piano

mf

Accordion

mf

simile

1.

2.

Violin
U.K.

L.K.

mp

Fine

B

simile

1.

2.

Piano
U.K.

C

L.K.

D.S.

Grade 8 Course-A Compulsory Piece

This compulsory piece is valid until December 31, 2013

Rowan Tree

Minoru Iwama

Moderato

Flute C Dm7 G7 C

Guitar

mp

C C7 A7 Dm7 G7 C

Strings

Strings

mp

First system of musical notation. The piano part (treble and bass clefs) features a melody in the treble and accompaniment in the bass. Chords are indicated above the staff: F#7, Bm, D7, and G. The bass line consists of a simple eighth-note pattern. Dynamics include *mf* and a crescendo hairpin.

Second system of musical notation. It includes parts for Flute and Guitar. The piano part (treble and bass clefs) features a melody in the treble and accompaniment in the bass. Chords are indicated above the staff: C, Dm7, G7, C, Cdim, and C. The bass line consists of a simple eighth-note pattern. Dynamics include *mp*.

Third system of musical notation. The piano part (treble and bass clefs) features a melody in the treble and accompaniment in the bass. Chords are indicated above the staff: C, C7, A7, Dm7, G7, and C. The bass line consists of a simple eighth-note pattern. Dynamics include *f* and a crescendo hairpin.

Fourth system of musical notation. The piano part (treble and bass clefs) features a melody in the treble and accompaniment in the bass. Chords are indicated above the staff: C7, F, Fm, and Cm7. The bass line consists of a simple eighth-note pattern. Dynamics include *p*, *rit.*, and *pp*.

III. IMPROVISATION (Arrangement)

Candidates play a given melody of 16 bars in length with a suitable accompaniment.
The melody will be given from the melodies No.1-5 in this syllabus.

Range of keys, times and chords

Keys: C, G, F majors

Times: 4/4

Chords: I, IV, V7

Example

The example shows a 16-bar melody in 4/4 time, written in treble clef. The melody is divided into four 4-bar phrases. The chords are indicated above the notes: C, G7, C, G7, C, G7, F, C. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a final whole note in the 16th bar.

Procedure

1. The examiners give candidates one melody from the melodies No.1-5 in this syllabus.
2. Candidates check the melody, and set the registration.
3. Candidates play the melody one or two choruses with a suitable accompaniment.

Note:

- Chord names will be given on the score.
- The purpose of this subject is to improvise music. Thus candidates play with a score that is the same as the score included in this syllabus. They are not allowed to play with their own scores.

[Performance example]

Moderato

Strings

C G7 C

G7 C G7

C F

C G7 C (Clarinet)

Candidates may finish here.

Chord progression: C, G7, C

This system contains the first two measures of a piece. The treble clef staff features a melodic line with a slur over the first two measures. The bass clef staff provides accompaniment with chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand. Chord changes are indicated above the staff: C for the first measure, G7 for the second, and C for the third.

Chord progression: G7, C, G7

This system contains the next two measures. The treble clef staff continues the melodic line with a slur. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. Chord changes are indicated above the staff: G7 for the first measure, C for the second, and G7 for the third.

Chord progression: C, F

This system contains the next two measures. The treble clef staff continues the melodic line with a slur. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. Chord changes are indicated above the staff: C for the first measure and F for the second.

Chord progression: C, G7, C

This system contains the final two measures of the piece. The treble clef staff concludes the melodic line with a slur. The bass clef staff concludes the accompaniment. Chord changes are indicated above the staff: C for the first measure, G7 for the second, and C for the third.

Grade 8 Course-A Improvisation (Arrangement)

No.1

Musical score for No.1, featuring four staves of music in G major. The score includes various chords (G, D7, C) and melodic lines with slurs and ties. The first staff starts with a G chord and a melodic line. The second staff continues the melody with a D7 chord. The third staff features a G chord and a C chord. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a D7 chord and a final G chord.

No.2

Musical score for No.2, featuring four staves of music in C major. The score includes various chords (C, G7, F) and melodic lines with slurs and ties. The first staff starts with a C chord and a melodic line. The second staff continues the melody with a G7 chord. The third staff features a C chord and an F chord. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a G7 chord and a final C chord.

No.3

Chord progression for No.3: C, G7, G7, C, C, F, G7, C, C, G7, G7, C, C, F, G7, C.

No.4

Chord progression for No.4: F, C7, F, Bb, C7, F, F, Bb, C7, F, F, Bb, C7, F.

No.5

The musical score for No. 5 consists of four staves of music. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is common time (C). The notes and rests are as follows:

- Staff 1: Four measures. Notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter). Chords: F (above G), Bb (above Bb), C7 (above C).
- Staff 2: Four measures. Notes: D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F5 (quarter), G5 (quarter). Chords: F (above D), Bb (above Bb), C7 (above C), F (above F).
- Staff 3: Four measures. Notes: A5 (quarter), Bb5 (quarter), C6 (quarter), D6 (quarter). Chords: Bb (above Bb), C7 (above C), F (above F), Bb (above Bb).
- Staff 4: Four measures. Notes: E6 (quarter), F6 (quarter), G6 (quarter), A6 (quarter). Chords: F (above F), C7 (above C), F (above F), Bb (above Bb), F (above F).