

Yamaha Grade Examination System

# **Electone Performance Grade**

## **Grade 9 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).

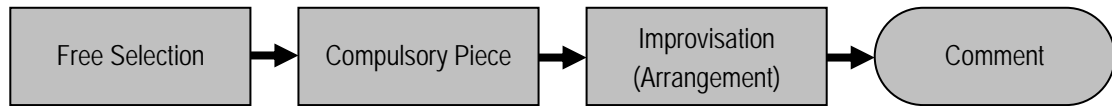
Course-B is comprehensive and the subjects are Free Selection, Sight Playing, Accompaniment / Improvisation and Hearing.

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 9 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 9.  
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 8 level piece for Grade 9 exam  
b) Grade 10 level piece for Grade 9 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 9.

#### **Note:**

- Compulsory pieces for Grade 9 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 9 Course-A Compulsory Piece

This compulsory piece is valid until December 31, 2013

# Elegant Waltz

Tempo di valse

Minoru Iwama

The first system of the musical score for 'Elegant Waltz' consists of three staves. The top staff is the treble clef, the middle is the grand staff (treble and bass clefs), and the bottom is the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The piece begins with a 'mf' dynamic. The first staff has a 'Strings' registration mark and a 'G' chord above the first measure. The second staff has an 'Am7' chord above the fourth measure. The bottom staff shows a simple bass line with quarter notes and rests.

The second system of the musical score continues the piece. It features a 'D7' chord above the first measure and a 'G' chord above the third measure. The notation and bass line follow the same pattern as the first system.

The third system of the musical score concludes the piece. It features a 'G' chord above the first measure, a 'B<sup>b</sup>dim' chord above the third measure, and an 'Am7' chord above the fourth measure. The notation and bass line follow the same pattern as the previous systems.

Registration in the score is example.  
You may set registration freely.

System 1: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chords: D7, G, C. Fingerings: 3, 2, 1. Dynamics: *mp*. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a single bass clef staff below. The grand staff shows a melodic line in the treble and a bass line in the bass clef. The single bass clef staff shows a rhythmic accompaniment.

System 2: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chords: G, D7. Fingerings: 5, 1, 3, 2, 1, 2. Dynamics: *mp*. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a single bass clef staff below. The grand staff shows a melodic line in the treble and a bass line in the bass clef. The single bass clef staff shows a rhythmic accompaniment.

System 3: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chords: G, C, Bm<sup>5</sup>. Fingerings: 3, 3. Dynamics: *mf*. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a single bass clef staff below. The grand staff shows a melodic line in the treble and a bass line in the bass clef. The single bass clef staff shows a rhythmic accompaniment.

System 4: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Chords: E7, A7, D7, G. Fingerings: 2, 1. Dynamics: *f*. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a single bass clef staff below. The grand staff shows a melodic line in the treble and a bass line in the bass clef. The single bass clef staff shows a rhythmic accompaniment.

## Grade 9 Course-A Compulsory Piece

This compulsory piece is valid until December 31, 2013

# Promenade

Andante

Yoshiyuki Toyoshima

Woodwind

Strings

Contrabass

*mp*

F Gm C7

The first system of the score consists of three staves. The top staff is for the Woodwind instrument, the middle for Strings, and the bottom for Contrabass. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is common time (C). The tempo is marked 'Andante' and the dynamics are 'mp'. The first staff has a melodic line with a slur over the first four measures. The second and third staves have a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.

F Gm C7 F

The second system continues the piece with the same three staves. The melodic line in the top staff has a slur over the first three measures. The accompaniment in the middle and bottom staves continues with eighth notes.

F7 B<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>m F

*simile*

The third system features a more complex accompaniment. The top staff has a melodic line with a slur over the first three measures. The middle staff has a dense texture of chords, with the word 'simile' written above it. The bottom staff has a simple bass line with a slur over the first three measures.

Registration in the score is example.  
You may set registration freely.

G7 C7 F A<sup>b</sup>dim Gm7 C7 (+Strings)

*cresc.* *rit.* *mf*

F Gm7 C7 F

*a tempo*

Am<sup>-5</sup> D7 Gm7 Gm7 C7 F

*rit.*

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### **III. IMPROVISATION (Arrangement)**

Candidates play a given melody of eight bars in length with appropriate chords.

The melody will be given from the melodies No.1-4 in this syllabus.

#### **Range of keys, times and chords**

Keys: C major

Times: 4/4

Chords: C, F, G7

#### **Example**

Example musical notation showing a melody in C major, 4/4 time, with chords C, G7, F, and C indicated above the notes. The melody consists of two lines of four bars each. The first line has chords C, G7, G7, and C. The second line has chords C, F, G7, and C.

#### **Procedure**

1. The examiners give candidates one melody from the melodies No.1-4 in this syllabus.
2. Candidates check the melody, and set the registration.
3. Candidates play the melody with appropriate chords.

#### **Note:**

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

[Performance example]

Performance example musical notation showing a melody in C major, 4/4 time, with chords C, G7, F, and C indicated above the notes. The notation includes a grand staff with treble and bass clefs, and a separate bass line. The melody consists of two lines of four bars each. The first line has chords C, G7, G7, and C. The second line has chords C, F, G7, and C.

Grade 9 Course-A Improvisation (Arrangement)

No.1

Chord progression: C, G7

The first system of No.1 consists of two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. It contains a melodic line with a slur over four measures. The first measure has a C chord above it, and the second measure has a G7 chord above it. The bottom staff also has a treble clef and a common time signature. It contains a similar melodic line with a slur over four measures. The first measure has a C chord above it, the second measure has an F chord above it, the third measure has a G7 chord above it, and the fourth measure has a C chord above it.

No.2

Chord progression: C, G7, G7, C

The first system of No.2 consists of two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. It contains a melodic line with a slur over four measures. The first measure has a C chord above it, and the second measure has a G7 chord above it. The bottom staff also has a treble clef and a common time signature. It contains a similar melodic line with a slur over four measures. The first measure has a C chord above it, the second measure has a G7 chord above it, the third measure has a G7 chord above it, and the fourth measure has a C chord above it.

No.3

Chord progression: C, F, G7, C

The first system of No.3 consists of two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. It contains a melodic line with a slur over four measures. The first measure has a C chord above it, and the second measure has an F chord above it. The bottom staff also has a treble clef and a common time signature. It contains a similar melodic line with a slur over four measures. The first measure has a C chord above it, the second measure has an F chord above it, the third measure has a G7 chord above it, and the fourth measure has a C chord above it.

No.4

Chord progression: C, F, G7, C

The first system of No.4 consists of two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. It contains a melodic line with a slur over four measures. The first measure has a C chord above it, the second measure has an F chord above it, the third measure has a G7 chord above it, and the fourth measure has a C chord above it. The bottom staff also has a treble clef and a common time signature. It contains a similar melodic line with a slur over four measures. The first measure has a C chord above it, the second measure has an F chord above it, the third measure has a G7 chord above it, and the fourth measure has a C chord above it.