Yamaha Grade Examination System

Electone Performance Grade

Grade 6 Course-B

SYLLABUS

Valid from 2014

Current until further notice

Issued by authority of the

YAMAHA MUSIC FOUNDATION

© Copyright 2013 by YAMAHA MUSIC FOUNDATION
All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured.

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.

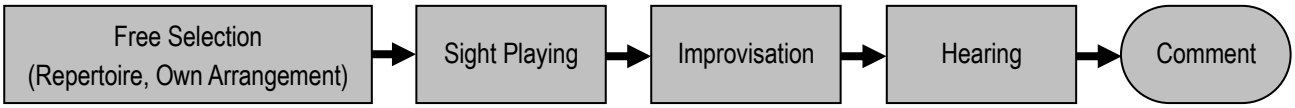
Difference between the Course-A and Course-B

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 6 Course-B

EXAMINATION PROCEDURE



I. FREE SELECTION

A. REPERTOIRE

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

Note:

- Pieces for Free Selection should be prepared from pieces that are in Yamaha publications and are with the grade level, or pieces that are the same level as Grade 6.
  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;
  a) Pieces in different levels of the grade, e.g. Grade 5 level piece for Grade 6 exam, Grade 7 level piece for Grade 6 etc.
  b) Pieces from Yamaha Music Education System's textbooks, and in the other grade levels
- One candidate's own composition/arrangement can be included.
- Compulsory piece(s) for Electone Performance Grade 6 Course-A 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.

B. OWN ARRANGEMENT

Candidates prepare one own arrangement on the appropriate level.

Note:

- Candidates should use their discretion in the choice of chords, chord progressions, accompaniment, overall structure, and use of Introduction and Ending/Coda.
- The auxiliary functions, such as Rhythm, A.B.C., Accompaniment etc., can be used freely to enhance candidates' performance, if the difficulty confirms with the grade level.
- Performing from memory is optional but advisable.
- Candidates are recommended to bring the score so that examiners can give them more specific advices.

II. SIGHT PLAYING

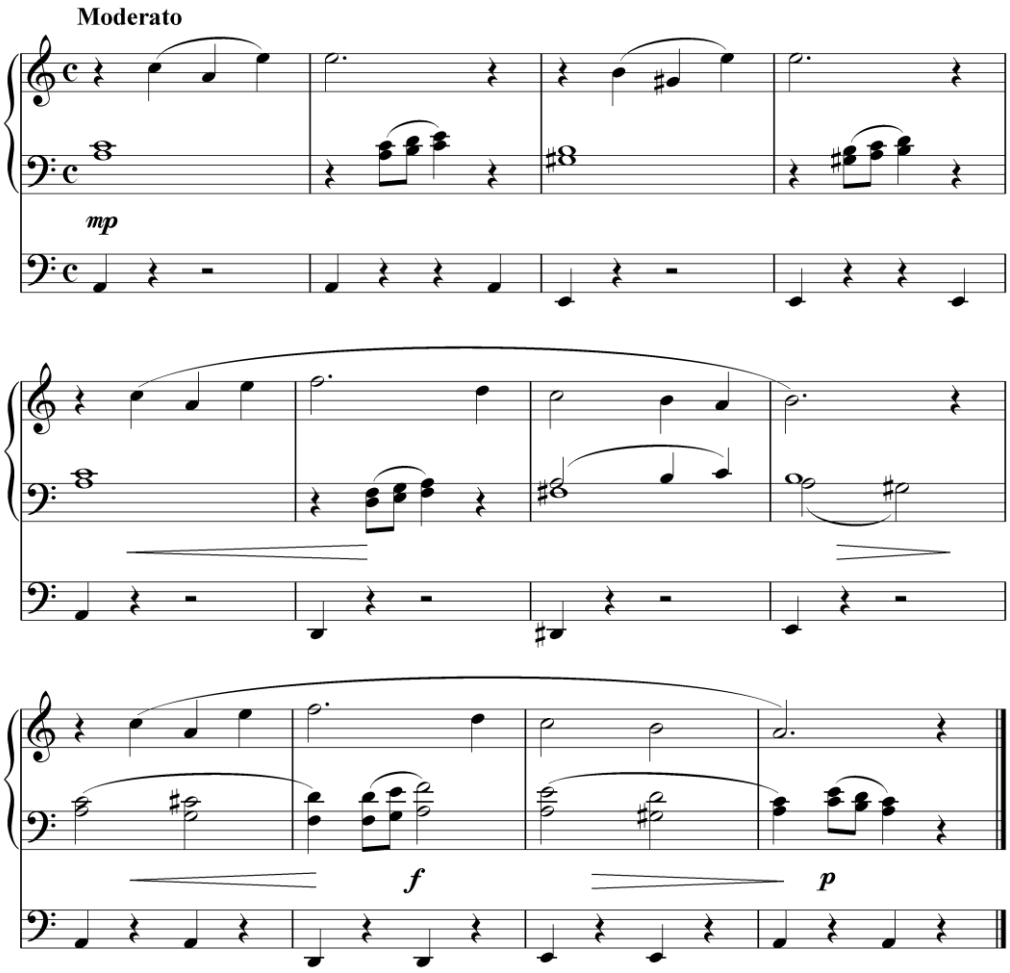
Candidates play by sight a three-stave piece of around 12 to 16 bars in length.

Range of keys and times

Keys: Major or minor keys with up to 4 sharps or flats

Times: 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, 6/8

Example



Procedure

1. Candidates look through the score for approximately 30 seconds.
2. Candidates play the piece at sight after examiner's cue.

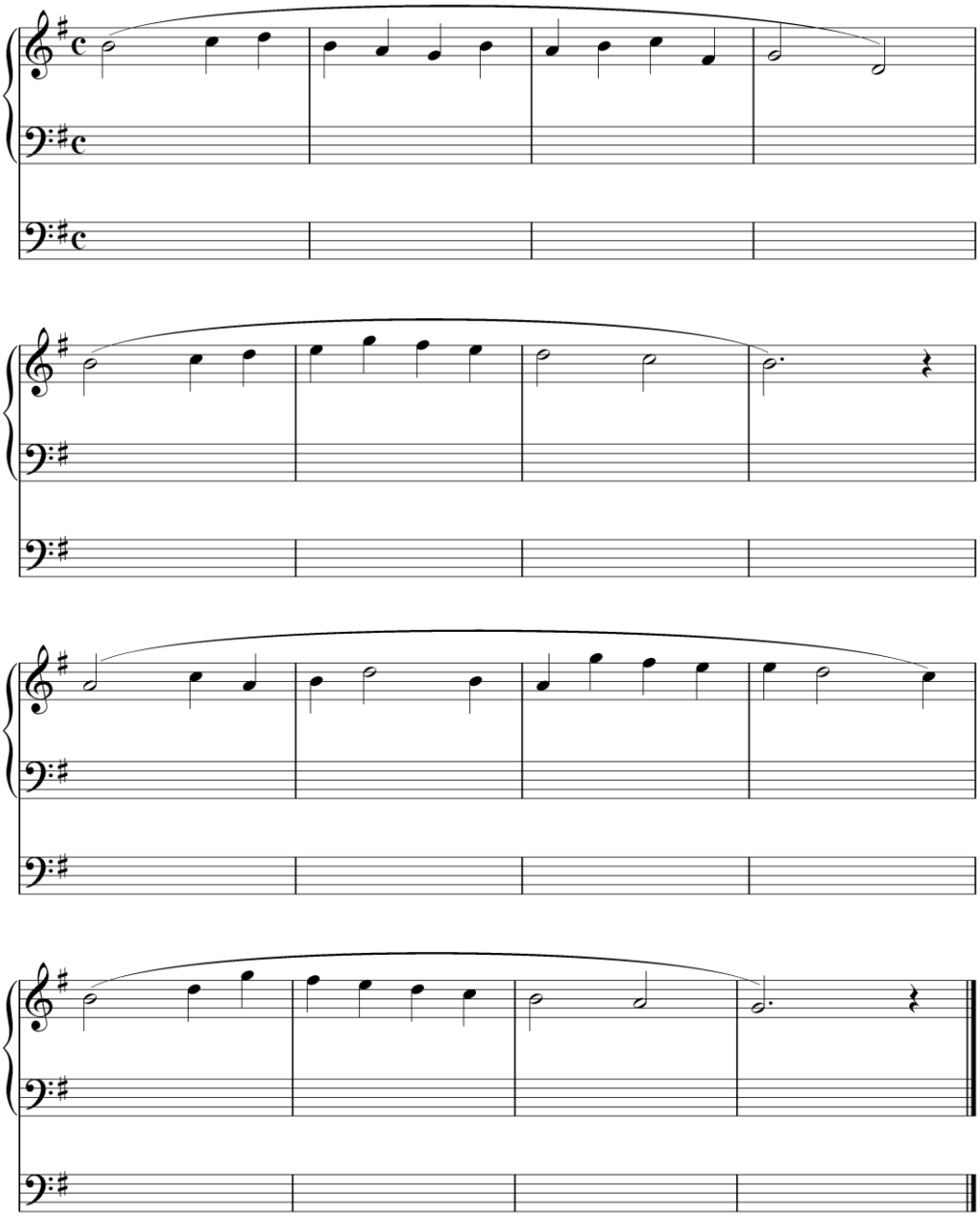
III. IMPROVISATION

Candidates play a given melody of around 12 to 16 bars together with an appropriate accompaniment, and then play with variation for the second time.

Range of keys, times and chords

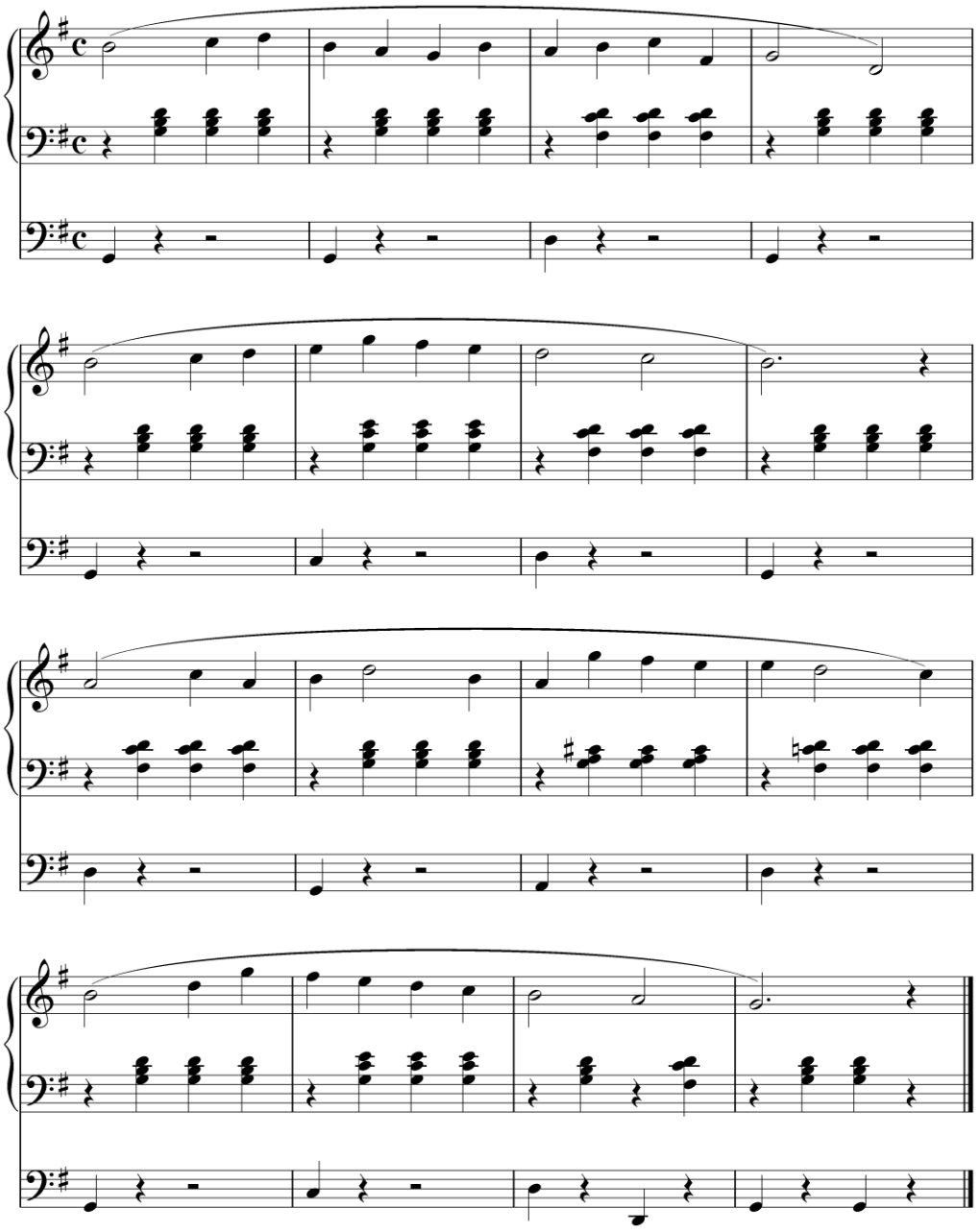
Keys: Major or minor keys with up to 4 sharps or flats
Times: 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, 6/8
Chords: I, IV, V, V7, VI, II, $\overset{\text{V}}{\text{V}}7$ and their inversions
Other chords and their inversions may be used

Example

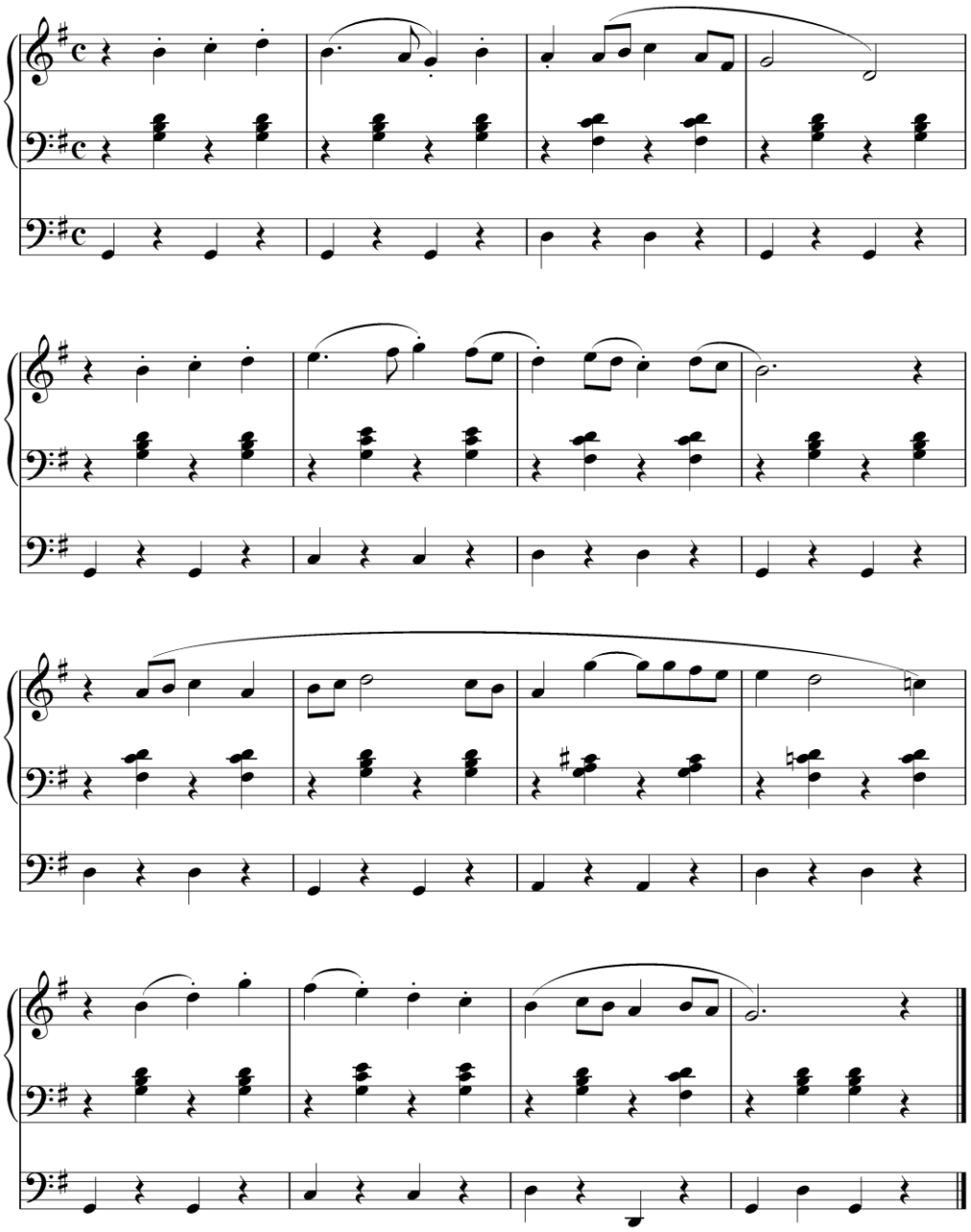


Procedure

1. Candidates play a given melody.
   The examiners may give candidates advices if they didn't play it correctly. (Playing the melody by sight is not an evaluation point.)
2. Candidates play the melody together with an appropriate accompaniment.



3. Then candidates play with variation.



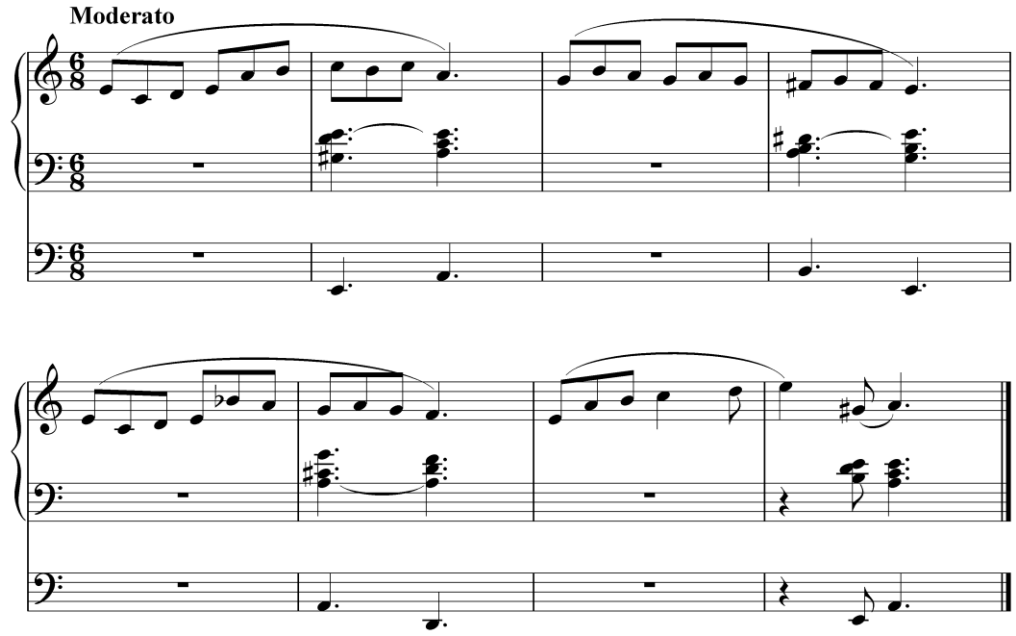
IV. HEARING

Candidates play by ear a simple three-stave piece of around eight bars.

Range of keys and times

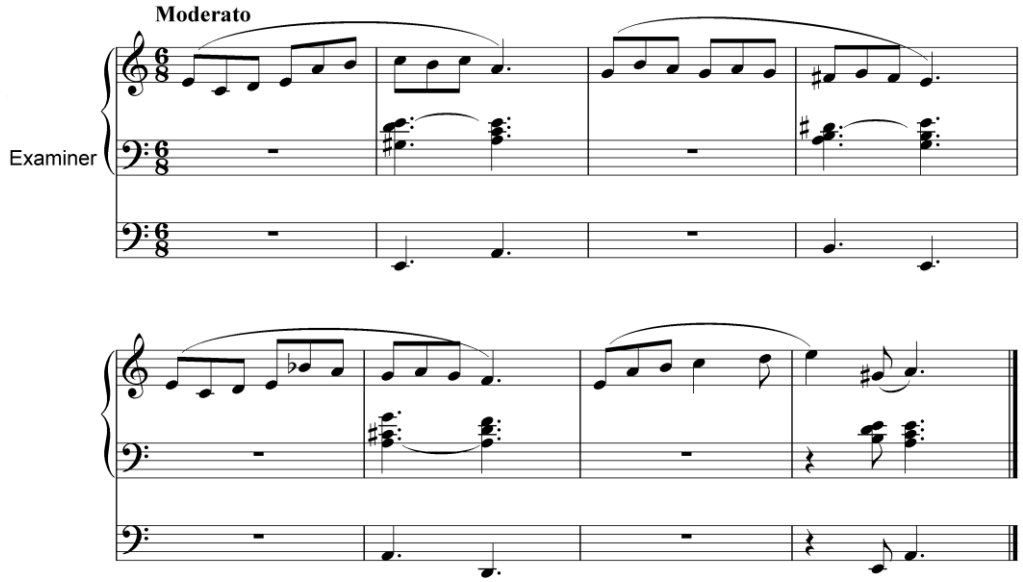
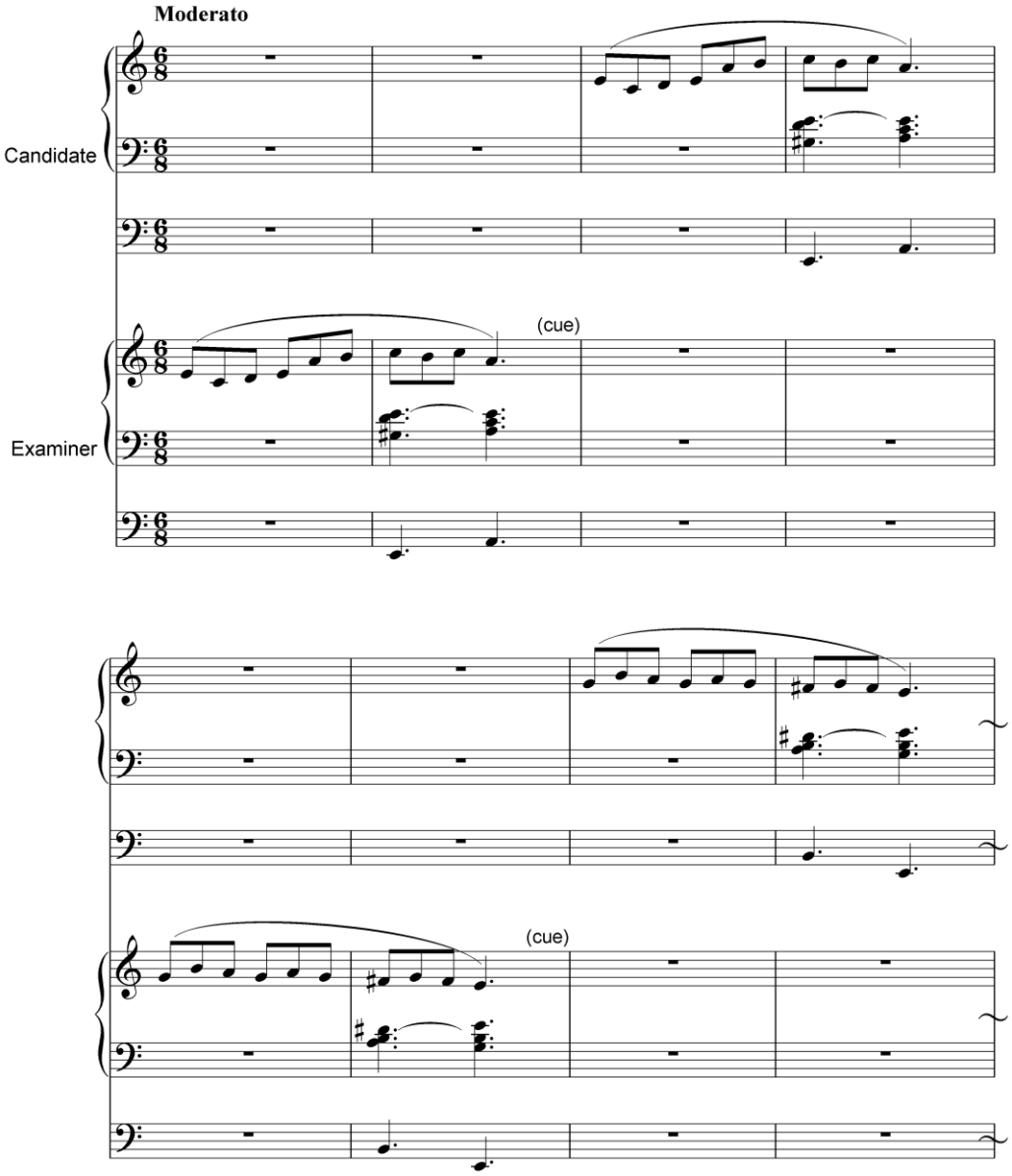
Keys: Major or minor keys with up to 4 sharps or flats
Times: 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, 6/8

Example



Procedure

1. The examiner sets the same registration for the examiner's and candidate's Electone prior to the subject.
2. The examiner tells candidates the key, and plays the whole piece.



3. Then the examiner plays the piece 2 or 4 bars each. Candidates play it by ear after examiner's cue.