

Yamaha Grade Examination System

**Electone Performance Grade**

**Grade 9 Course-B**

# SYLLABUS

**Valid from 2014**

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).

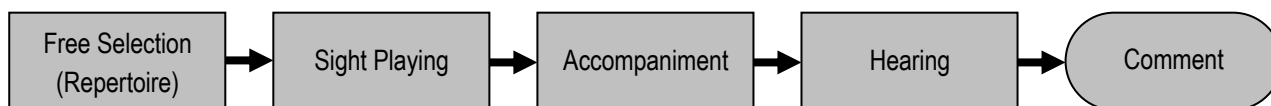
Course-B is comprehensive and the subjects are Free Selection, Sight Playing, Accompaniment / Improvisation and Hearing.

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-B**

**EXAMINATION PROCEDURE**



**I. FREE SELECTION**

**REPERTOIRE**

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 are with the grade level, 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;
  - a) Pieces in different levels of the grade, e.g. Grade 8 level piece for Grade 9 exam, Grade 10 level piece for Grade 9 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 9 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.

## **II. SIGHT PLAYING**

Candidates play at sight a two-stave piece of around eight bars in length

### **Range of keys and times**

Keys: C, G, F majors and A, D minors

Times: 4/4, 3/4

### **Example**

The musical score is written for a two-stave instrument in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of eight bars, divided into two systems of four bars each. The first system shows a melody in the treble clef starting on G4, moving up stepwise to B4, and then down to G4. The bass clef has a single G4 note. The second system continues the melody, moving up to D5, then down to G4, and finally to E4. The bass clef has a single G4 note. The piece ends with a double bar line.

### **Procedure**

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

### III. ACCOMPANIMENT

Candidates play suitable chords on Lower Keyboard (L.K.) and Pedal or with both hands to a melody of around eight bars in length, and then play them in an appropriate accompaniment style. The melody is from a well-known piece such as worldwide folk song.

#### Range of keys, times and chords

Keys: C, G, F majors and A, D minors

Times: 4/4, 3/4

Chords: I, IV, V, V7 (root position)

#### Example

Bracketed notes are for both-hand playing.

#### Procedure

1. The examiner confirms with candidates how they wish to play the accompaniment, either on L.K. and Pedal, or with both hands.
2. Candidates listen to the melody the examiner plays, while looking through the score.
3. Candidates play the most suitable chords that are based on the given bass notes, to the melody the examiner plays.

(L.K. and Pedal)

4. Then candidates play the chords again in an appropriate accompaniment style.

## IV. HEARING

### A. Melody Hearing

Candidates play by ear a melody of around four bars with the accompaniment played by the examiner.

#### Range of keys and times

Keys: C, G, F majors and A, D minors

Times: 4/4, 3/4

#### Example

Moderato

A musical score for a four-bar piece in G major, 4/4 time, marked Moderato. The score is written for a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The melody in the treble clef consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The accompaniment in the bass clef consists of chords: G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3. The piece ends with a double bar line.

#### 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 melody with the accompaniment.

Moderato

Examiner

A musical score for a four-bar piece in G major, 4/4 time, marked Moderato. The score is written for a grand staff. The melody in the treble clef consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The accompaniment in the bass clef consists of chords: G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3. The piece ends with a double bar line.

3. The examiner plays the first half, and then candidates play the melody by ear to the accompaniment played by the examiner after examiner's cue.

Moderato

Candidate

Examiner

A musical score for a four-bar piece in G major, 4/4 time, marked Moderato. The score is written for a grand staff. The top staff is labeled 'Candidate' and shows a whole rest for the first two bars, followed by the melody: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bottom staff is labeled 'Examiner' and shows the accompaniment: G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3. A '(cue)' label is placed above the second bar of the examiner's part. The piece ends with a double bar line.

4. Then, the second half in the same manner.

Moderato

Candidate

Examiner

A musical score for a four-bar piece in G major, 4/4 time, marked Moderato. The score is written for a grand staff. The top staff is labeled 'Candidate' and shows a whole rest for the first two bars, followed by the melody: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bottom staff is labeled 'Examiner' and shows the accompaniment: G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3, G2-B2-D3. A '(cue)' label is placed above the second bar of the examiner's part. The piece ends with a double bar line.

## B. Harmony Hearing

Candidates play by ear a chord cadence of around four to six bars.

### Range of keys and chords

Keys: C, G, F majors and A, D minors

Chords: I, IV, V, V7 (root position)

### Example

Bracketed notes are for both-hands.

### Procedure

1. The examiner confirms with candidates how they wish to play the chords, either on L.K. and Pedal or with both hands.
2. The examiner tells candidates the key, and then plays all chords.
3. Then candidates play them after examiner's cue.