

LEVEL ONE

Length of the examination: 20 minutes

Examination Fee: Please consult our website for the schedule of fees.
www.conservatorycanada.ca

Co-requisite: None. There is no written examination co-requisite for the awarding of the Level 1 Practical Certificate.

REQUIREMENTS & MARKING

<i>Requirement</i>	<i>Total Marks</i>
THREE PIECES (one from each of the following) JAZZ/BLUES ROCK OTHER GENRES	12 12 12
ONE STUDY	12
ONE SUPPLEMENTARY PIECE	10
BACKGROUND INFORMATION	8
TECHNICAL TESTS Scales & Triads Chords	16
SIGHT READING Rhythm Pattern Chord Chart	3 7
AURAL TESTS	8
TOTAL MARKS	100
BONUS MARKS*	2

* Two bonus marks will be awarded to a candidate who performs at least one of the required pieces with CD accompaniment, either commercially prepared or an original creation by the student.

Contemporary Idioms Guitar Syllabus - Level ONE

LIST PIECES

Candidates must be prepared to play three pieces from the following three categories: *Jazz/Blues, Rock and Other Genres*. Choices should contrast in style, key, and tempo. Your choices must include two different composers or arrangers.

ROCK

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR GUITAR BOOK 1 (HAL LEONARD)

Let It Be p. 35
Stand by Me p.68
Every Breath You Take p.74
Dust in the Wind p.75

MEL BAY'S GUITAR JOURNALS-BLUES (MEL BAY)

The Pull-Off p.30

OTHER

EASY POP MELODIES (HAL LEONARD)

All My Loving p.10
Nowhere Man p.14
Every Breath You Take p.17
Walk Don't Run p. 30

BLUEGRASS GUITAR CLASSICS (HAL LEONARD)

Man of Constant Sorrow p.22
Under the Double Eagle p.36

MEL BAY'S GUITAR JOURNALS – ROCK (MEL BAY)

Bending The Blues p. 47

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR GUITAR BOOK 1 (HAL LEONARD)

Wayfaring Stranger p.64

JAZZ/BLUES

SOLO BLUES GUITAR (HAL LEONARD)

Solos 1,8.

STUDIES

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR GUITAR BOOK 1 (HAL LEONARD)

123. Power Chord Shuffle p. 77
124. Blues in A p.78

MEL BAY'S GUITAR JOURNALS JAZZ (MEL BAY)

Blues in G p. (First 12 Bars)

21ST CENTURY GUITAR METHOD (ALFRED)

Singing Strings p. 22
Spy to Spy p. 22

SUPPLEMENTARY PIECE

Candidates must be prepared to play one supplementary piece. This piece need not be from the Syllabus lists, and may be chosen entirely at the discretion of the teacher and student. It may represent a period or style of piece not already included in the examination program, but which holds special interest for the candidate. The choice must be within the following guidelines:

(a) The equivalent level of difficulty of the piece may be at a higher level, providing it is within the technical and musical grasp of the candidate.

(b) Candidates with exceptional talent for improvisation may wish to improvise upon a theme of their choice.

In this case, items (a) and (b) (above) will apply. Marks will be given for originality, musical inventiveness, and compositional/structural unity.

Special approval is not required for the supplementary piece. However, poor suitability of the choice may be reflected in the mark.

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TECHNICAL TESTS

All technical tests must be played from memory, evenly, with good tone, and logical left hand fingering including right hand finger alternation *or* down and up picking. Metronome markings should be regarded as *minimum* speeds.

Keys Required in Level One.

	New Keys	Review Keys
Major	C	None
Minor	Am	None

SCALES

To be played from memory, ascending AND descending, in the keys stated. Open strings are allowed.

	Keys	Octaves	M.M. ♩ =	Articulation
Major (Ionian)	C	2	70	all legato, even 8ths
Natural Minor, (Aeolian)	Am	2	70	all legato, even 8ths
Harmonic Minor,	Am	2	70	all legato, even 8ths
Jazz Melodic Minor	Am	2	70	all legato, even 8ths
Pentatonic	C, Am	2	70	all legato, even 8ths
Chromatic	Beginning on D	1	70	all legato, even 8ths

Any logical fingering is acceptable. They may be played alternating down and up with a pick or performed by alternating the right hand index and middle fingers.

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Example: Required Scales

C IONIAN



A AEOLIAN



A HARMONIC MINOR



A JAZZ MELODIC MINOR



C MAJOR PENTATONIC



A MINOR PENTATONIC



D CHROMATIC



ARPEGGIOS

To be played ascending *and* descending in the keys stated.

	Keys	M.M. ♩ =	Note Values
Major	C	70	in quarter notes
Minor	Am	70	in quarter notes

Example: Required Arpeggios



CHORDS

Play the following chord progressions in sequence:

- (a) Major Key: Imaj, IVmaj, V7, Imaj
- (b) Minor Key: Im, IVm, V7, Im

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Example- Chord Progressions

C MAJOR

C F G7 C

A MINOR

Am Dm E7 Am

SIGHT READING

Candidates are required to perform at sight:

- (a) A rhythmic exercise (one example given)
- (b) A melodic passage (one example given)
- (c) A chord chart

The candidate will be given a brief period to scan the score and must perform each section without counting aloud. Attempts to correct errors during the performance should be avoided.

<i>Rhythmic Exercise</i>	
Tap, clap, or play on one note (at the candidate's choice) a simple rhythm.	
Length	4 bars

Example: a) Rhythm

Example: Rhythmic Exercise

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Melodic Passage

Sight read a short melody equal in difficulty to pieces of Level 1.

Keys C, am,

Length 4 bars

Example: b) Sight Reading



Chord Charts

The candidate is to interpret the rhythm and chord voicings while maintaining stylistic integrity.

Major Keys C

Length 8 – 24 bars

Example: Chord Chart

Two staves of music in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff shows four measures of chords: I, IV, I, and V7. The second staff shows four measures of chords: I, V7, IV, and I. Each measure contains a series of diagonal slashes representing guitar strings, indicating the rhythm and voicing of the chords. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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AURAL TESTS

The candidate will be required:

- (a) to identify *major* or *minor* chords played once by the examiner in broken form and in root position:
- (b) the examiner will play the four note tonic chord of any key in root position slowly ascending and descending. The examiner will then randomly play one note from the chord asking the student to identify the note by interval:

interval number [1, 3, 5, 8].

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Candidates must be prepared to answer questions on the three pieces selected for the examination. The questions will include the following elements:

- (a) Musical signs – Find and explain all articulation markings, dynamic and tempo markings and other musical terms.
- (b) Style – Describe any important musical concepts in each of the genres performed on the examination (jazz, blues, latin, etc.) and illustrate how they apply to each particular piece.

RESOURCE MATERIAL

Further examples and supplementary exercises may be found on the E-Sharp Club at: www.conservatorycanada.ca