



# conservatory

## CANADA™

### Level 5

**Length of the examination:** 25 minutes

**Examination Fee:** Please consult our website for the schedule of fees: [www.conservatorycanada.ca](http://www.conservatorycanada.ca)

**Corequisite:** Successful completion of the **THEORY 1** examination is required for the completion of Level 5.

#### REQUIREMENTS & MARKING

Requirements		Total Marks
<b>Repertoire</b> 4 pieces of varying styles	Piece #1	12
	Piece #2	12
	Piece #3	12
	Piece #4	12
<b>Memory</b>	2 marks max will be awarded for 2 pieces memorized	2
<b>Technique</b>	Scales, Triads/Chords, Arpeggios, Chord Progressions	14
<b>Sight Reading</b>	Rhythm Pattern /2, Piano Passage /6	8
<b>Aural Tests</b>	Play/Sing Back /3, Chords /4, Intervals /3	10
<b>Improvisation</b>	Etude /7, Improv Piece /5	12
<b>Background Information and Applied Skills</b>		6
<b>Total Possible Marks</b>		<b>100</b>

#### REPERTOIRE

- Candidate must be prepared to play four pieces varying in style, with at least 2 composers being represented to receive full marks.
- Candidate can choose the style of their pieces but please note that only **one** piece from the Classical Syllabus may be used.
- If the candidate has chosen to perform exam pieces from the American Popular Piano Repertoire book by Christopher Norton, a maximum of **one** of these pieces may match the the candidate's chosen etudes, for the improvisation portion of the exam.
- **Please check the updated Contemporary Repertoire List for proper leveling of all American Popular Piano selections.**

## REPERTOIRE continued

- To keep examinations running on time, candidates are encouraged to create concise arrangements of their music. Repeats may be observed when it is integral to the form of the music (e.g. Da Capo and Dal Segno indications), however longer pop stylings should be edited to condense the length by omitting excessive repeats on similar verses, repetitive choruses or extended solo sections that are not idiomatic to the instrument.
- Editing the notation and rhythm of pop stylings is allowed to bring the performance closer to a more realistic representation of the original recorded version or live performance version, or to make the music more accessible and level appropriate for the candidate.
- One mark per piece will be awarded for memorizing up to any two pieces on the exam. Although memorization is encouraged, no additional marks are available for memorizing three or more pieces.

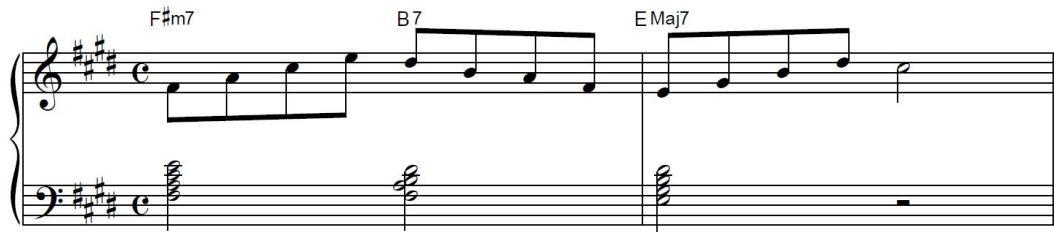
## TECHNICAL TESTS

- All technical tests must be played ascending and descending from memory with a steady pulse, even tone and logical fingering.
- Metronome markings should be regarded as minimum speeds.
- Do not repeat the upper tonic when playing scales.
- Examiner will state “swing” or “straight” eighths when applicable.

Scales/Modes	Keys	Hands	Range	J=	Performance
<b>Scales/Modes</b>					
Ionian/Major	E, A $\flat$	Together	2 octaves	100	Swing or Straight 8ths
Dorian	f $\sharp$ , b $\flat$	Together	2 octaves	100	Swing or Straight 8ths
Mixolydian	B, E $\flat$	Together	2 octaves	100	Swing or Straight 8ths
Aeolian/ Natural Minor	c $\sharp$ , f	Together	2 octaves	100	Swing or Straight 8ths
Harmonic Minor	c $\sharp$ , f	Together	2 octaves	100	Swing or Straight 8ths
<b>Triads</b>					
Solid	E, A $\flat$ , c $\sharp$ , f	Together	2 octaves	76	Quarter notes, without rests
Broken	E, A $\flat$ , c $\sharp$ , f	Together	2 octaves	76	Triplet 8th notes
<b>Dominant 7th Chords</b>					
Solid	B $^7$ , E $\flat$ $^7$	Separate	1 octave	72	Half notes
Broken	B $^7$ , E $\flat$ $^7$	Separate	1 octave	72	8th notes
<b>Arpeggios</b>					
Major & Minor	E, A $\flat$ , c $\sharp$ , f	Separate	2 octaves	88	8th notes, root position only

Dominant 7th	B <sup>7</sup> , E <sup>b7</sup>	Separate	2 octaves	88	8th notes, root position only
<b>Chord Progressions</b>					
ii <sup>7</sup> - V <sup>7</sup> - I <sup>major7</sup>	E, A <sup>b</sup>	Together	N/A	N/A	RH broken, LH solid Pedal is optional

*Chord Progression example:*



**SIGHT READING**

The candidate will be given a brief period to scan the score for the following two tests:

- A. Tap, clap or play on one note (at the candidate's choice) a simple rhythm, 4 bars in length.
  - Time signature may be 2/4, 3/4 or 4/4.
  - Note values may include sixteenth, eighth, dotted eighth, triplet eighth, quarter, dotted quarter, half and dotted half. Tied notes may be used.
  - Rest values may include eighth, quarter, half and whole.

*Example only:*



- B. Play at sight a piece 8-12 bars in length, about equal in difficulty to Grade 2 classical. The excerpt may be in a major or minor key with up to and including two sharps or flats. Material from Conservatory Canada's classical syllabus is appropriate in preparation for this requirement.

**AURAL TESTS**

The candidate will be required to:

- A. Play back or sing back to any vowel (at the candidate's choice), a short melody of six to eight notes in 2/4, 3/4 or 4/4 time. The melody will be based on the first five notes and lower leading tone of a major scale and will begin on the tonic note. The examiner will:

**AURAL TESTS continued**

- Name the key - either C, G, D or F major.
- Play the tonic four-note chord in broken form.
- Play the melody twice.

B. Identify major triads, minor triads, dominant 7th chords and major 7th chords played once by the examiner. The chords will be in closed root position and will be played in solid form.

Example only:



C. Identify any of the following intervals after the examiner has played it once in broken form:

Ascending	Descending
minor 3rd	minor 3rd
major 3rd	major 3rd
perfect 4th	perfect 4th
perfect 5th	perfect 5th
minor 6th	
major 6th	
perfect 8th	perfect 8th

**IMPROVISATION**

A. Improvisation Etudes:

- Prepare any **three** selections (at the candidate's choice) from Christopher Norton's **American Popular Piano Etudes Book 5**.
- **One** of the modules from the chosen Etudes will be given to the candidate exactly as it appears in the publication as a guide.
- The candidate will be expected to play hands together along to the backing track (provided by the Examiner).
- The left hand plays as written or using the given voicings and creating its own rhythmic vamp.
- The right hand improvises freely within the given note set or with additions as appropriate.
- The rhythmic suggestions do not have to be followed.
- Candidate is free to create in this exercise, using as much or as little of the given material as they like, as long as the realized improv is idiomatic to the backing track.



## **IMPROVISATION** continued

*Example only:*

### **12 Bar Blues**

The image shows three staves of musical notation for a 12-bar blues. Each staff contains four bars of music. The first staff has a C7 chord above the first bar. The second staff has F7 and C7 chords above the first and third bars respectively. The third staff has G7, F7, and C7 chords above the first, second, and third bars respectively. All bars contain a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

#### 3. Composition:

- Candidate will create an original composition in a key and time signature of their choice.
- Maximum time allowed is one minute.
- Candidate must provide a chord chart, lead sheet or score completely written out in standard notation for the Examiner.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION & APPLIED SKILLS**

Candidate should be prepared to give verbal answers or demonstrate the following elements on the piano:

- A. Title, composer/arranger, and key of all four repertoire choices.
- B. Find and explain all signs (including clefs, time signatures, key signatures, accidentals, etc.), articulation markings (legato, staccato, accents, phrase or slur markings, etc.), dynamic markings, tempo markings, and other musical terms found in the four repertoire choices.
- C. Chords:
  - Candidate should be prepared to:
    - Play any dominant 7th, minor 7th or major 7th chord in root position, starting on any note. Candidate will be asked by letter / chord name (G7, Emin7, F #maj7, etc.)
- D. Scales:
  - Using a one octave ascending scale, demonstrate with either hand how to change a:
    - F or C # aeolian scale into a harmonic minor scale.
    - F or C # aeolian scale into a melodic or jazz melodic minor scale.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION & APPLIED SKILLS continued**

- E. Candidate will choose **one** of the prepared repertoire pieces in which genre or style is clearly represented, and be prepared to name the style or genre and then describe or demonstrate these characteristics. For example: *What is the style of this piece?* "Ragtime". *What are the features that make it typical of Ragtime?* Candidate will be awarded marks for elaborating using specific details that they have researched.
  
- F. Candidate should be prepared to give two or three relevant details about the composer/arranger of **one** of their repertoire pieces (candidate's choice). Details may include the composer's nationality, instruments the composer played or wrote for, preference of music genre, famous works or associations, anecdotal information, etc.