



conservatory
C A N A D A™

Level 6

Length of the examination: 30 minutes

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

Corequisite: Successful completion of the **THEORY 2** examination is required for the completion of Level 6.

REQUIREMENTS & MARKING

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

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
Scales/Modes					
Ionian/Major	B, D \flat	Together	2 octaves	112	Swing or Straight 8ths
Dorian	c \sharp , e \flat	Together	2 octaves	112	Swing or Straight 8ths
Phrygian	d \sharp , f	Together	2 octaves	112	Swing or Straight 8ths
Lydian	e, g \flat	Together	2 octaves	112	Swing or Straight 8ths
Mixolydian	F \sharp , A \flat	Together	2 octaves	112	Swing or Straight 8ths
Aeolian/ Natural Minor	g \sharp , b \flat	Together	2 octaves	112	Swing or Straight 8ths
Harmonic Minor	g \sharp , b \flat	Together	2 octaves	112	Swing or Straight 8ths
Locrian	a \sharp , c	Together	2 octaves	112	Swing or Straight 8ths
Triads					
Solid	B, D \flat , g \sharp , b \flat	Together	2 octaves	80	Quarter notes
Broken	B, D \flat , g \sharp , b \flat	Together	2 octaves	80	Triplet 8th notes
Dominant 7th & Diminished 7th Chords					
Solid	F \sharp ⁷ , A \flat ⁷ , g ^{o7} , a ^{o7}	Separate	2 octaves	80	Half notes

Broken	F ^{#7} , A ^{b7} , g ^{o7} , a ^{o7}	Separate	2 octaves	80	8th notes
Arpeggios					
Major & Minor	B, D ^b , g [#] , b ^b	Separate	2 octaves	92	8th notes, root position only
Dominant 7th & Diminished 7th	F ^{#7} , A ^{b7} , g ^{o7} , a ^{o7}	Separate	2 octaves	92	8th notes, root position only
Chord Progressions					
ii ⁷ - V ⁷ - I ^{maj7}	B, D ^b	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.
- Using time signatures of 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 8-16 bars in length, about equal in difficulty to Grade 3 classical. The excerpt may be in a major or minor key with up to and including three sharps or flats. Material from Conservatory Canada's classical syllabus is appropriate in preparation for this requirement.

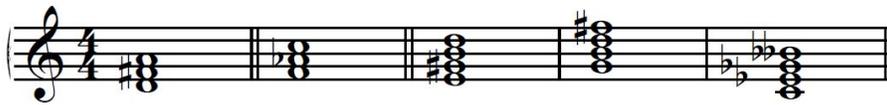
AURAL TESTS

The candidate will be required to:

AURAL TESTS continued

- 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 or minor scale and will begin on the tonic note. The examiner will:
- Name the key - either C, G, D, F, or B ♭ major; A, E, B, D or G minor.
 - Play the tonic four-note chord in broken form.
 - Play the melody twice.
- B. Identify major triads, minor triads, dominant 7th chords, major 7th chords and diminished 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 2nd	
major 2nd	
minor 3rd	minor 3rd
major 3rd	major 3rd
perfect 4th	perfect 4th
perfect 5th	perfect 5th
minor 6th	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 6**.
 - **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).

IMPROVISATION continued

- Marks will be awarded for maintaining a steady pulse.
- Maximum time allowed is one minute.
- Example illustrates a basic template to follow. Other variations of 12 bar blues along with chord substitutions may be used.

Example only:

12 Bar Blues

The image shows three staves of musical notation for a 12-bar blues progression. Each staff contains four measures of music, with diagonal slashes representing the notes. The first staff has a C7 chord above the first measure. The second staff has F7 above the first measure and C7 above the third measure. The third staff has G7 above the first measure, F7 above the second measure, and C7 above the third measure.

3. Composition:

- Candidate will create an original composition in a key and meter 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:
 - Candidates should be prepared to:
 - Play any dominant 7th, minor 7th, major 7th, diminished 7th, major 6th or minor 6th chord in root position, starting on any note. Candidate will be asked by letter / chord name (G7, E \flat min7, F \sharp maj7, etc.)
- D.** Scales:
 - Using a one octave ascending scale, demonstrate with either hand how to change a:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION & APPLIED SKILLS continued

- C major pentatonic scale into an A minor pentatonic scale then an A blues scale.
 - G major pentatonic scale into an E minor pentatonic scale then an E blues scale.
 - D major pentatonic scale into a B minor pentatonic scale then a B blues scale.
 - F major pentatonic scale into a D minor pentatonic scale then a D blues scale.
 - B ♭ major pentatonic scale into a G minor pentatonic scale then a G blues scale.
- 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.