THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF MUSIC

Group/Class Piano Placement and Exemption Test

What is the purpose of this test?

This test will help you and the evaluators determine your entry level into the Group Piano Program at FSU. If you are entering your first semester of Group Piano at FSU and choose not to take the exam, you should register for MVK 1111A.

Who should take the test?

Students with prior keyboard experience, whose degree programs require one or more semesters of group piano should consider taking the exam. Check the curriculum guide for your major to determine your specific piano requirement. Please remember that many years of piano lessons may or may not prepare you to exempt from certain classes. Keyboard majors do not need to take this test.

Transfer students with Group Piano credits should consult Dr. Joanna Hunt regarding transfer evaluations.

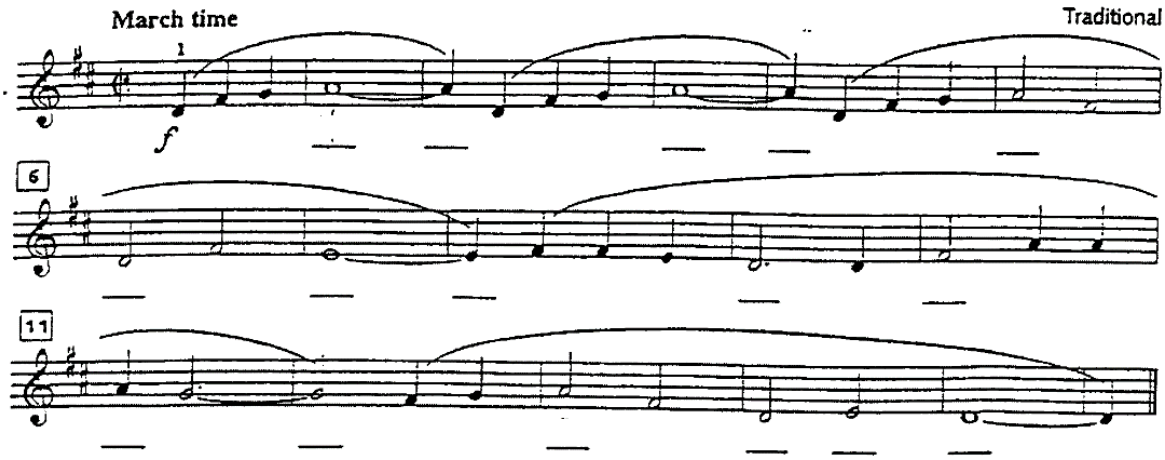
In order to help you prepare for the placement test, the format for all three test levels are included below. You may choose your test level. The evaluator will choose at least 5 of the 7 objectives for the level you select. You will have about 15 minutes to prepare immediately prior to the test. The evaluation will last approximately 10 minutes.

MVK 1111

1. Perform any of the 12 major scales and harmonic minor scales, played hands together, 2 octaves without any visual aids.

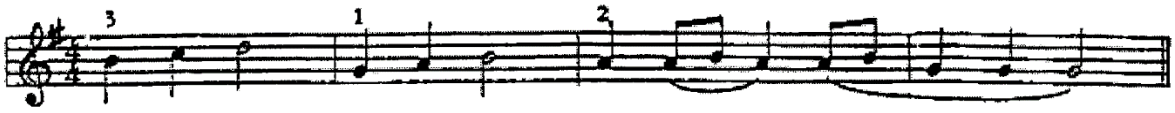
2. Perform the I IV I V7 I chord progression in any of the 12 major or minor keys.

3. Harmonize a melody using the I, IV and V7 chords in the left hand. Here is a representative example. You will be provided with a different melody at the exam.

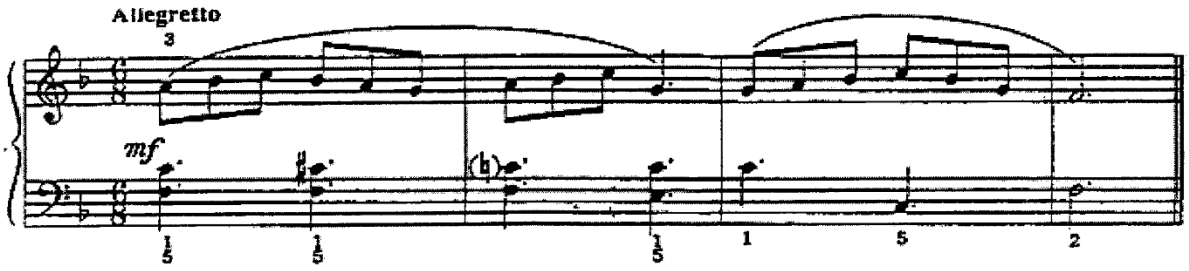


4. Perform ONE of the following solo repertoire pieces musically.
    a. Burgmuller: La Pastorale (from *Progressive Etudes*, Op. 100, no. 3)
    b. Gurlitt: The Fair, Op. 101, no. 8
    c. Kabalevsky: "Clowns", from *24 Pieces for Children*, Op. 39, no. 20

5. Transpose an excerpt up or down a half step. Here is a representative example. You will be provided with a different melody at the exam.



6. Sight read a simple piece of solo repertoire. Here is a representative example. You will be provided with a different piece at the exam.



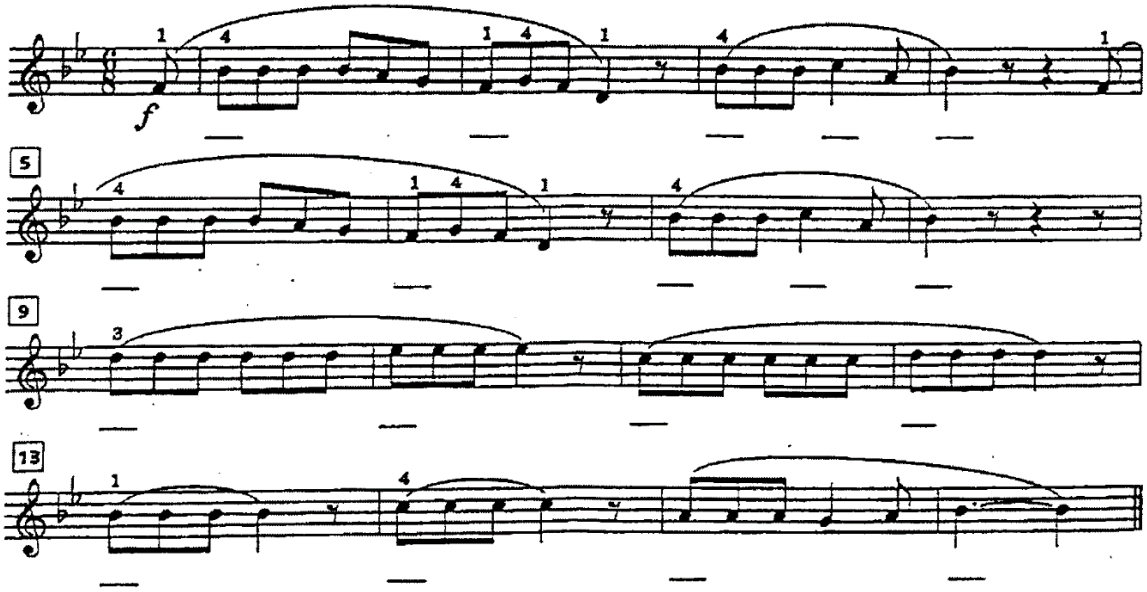
7. Play major, minor, diminished or augmented triads in root position, in any key.

MVK 2121

1. Perform any of the 12 major scales and harmonic minor scales, played hands together, 2 octaves without any visual aids.

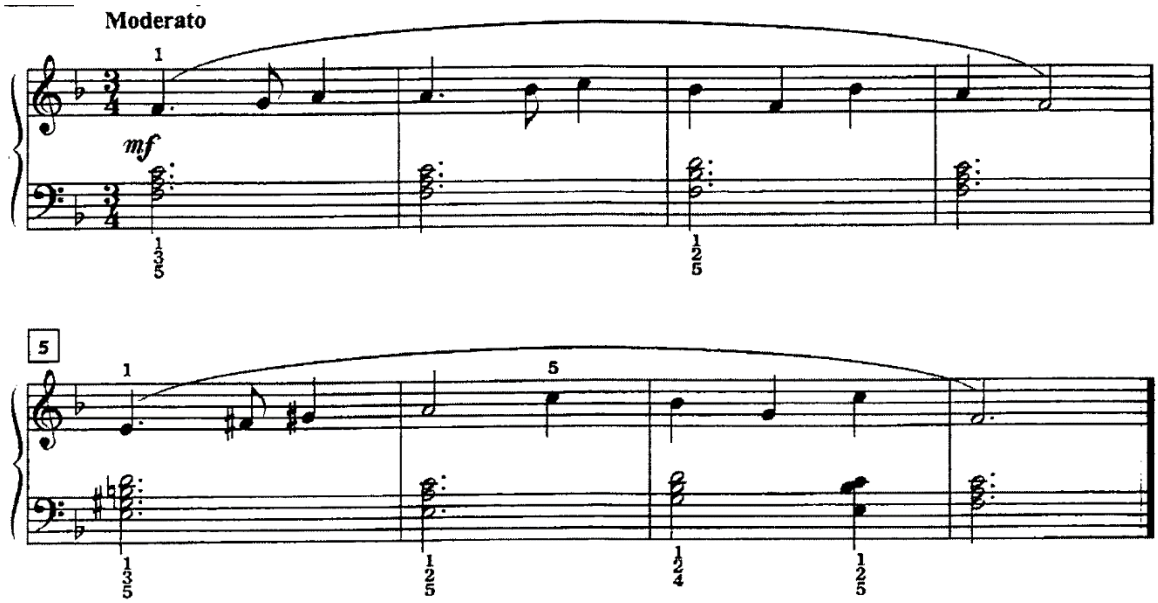
2. Perform the five types of seventh chords with any note as the root.

3. Harmonize a melody using the I, IV, ii, vi and V7 chords in the left hand. Use at least one ii chord and one vi chord. Here is a representative example. You will be provided with a different melody at the exam.

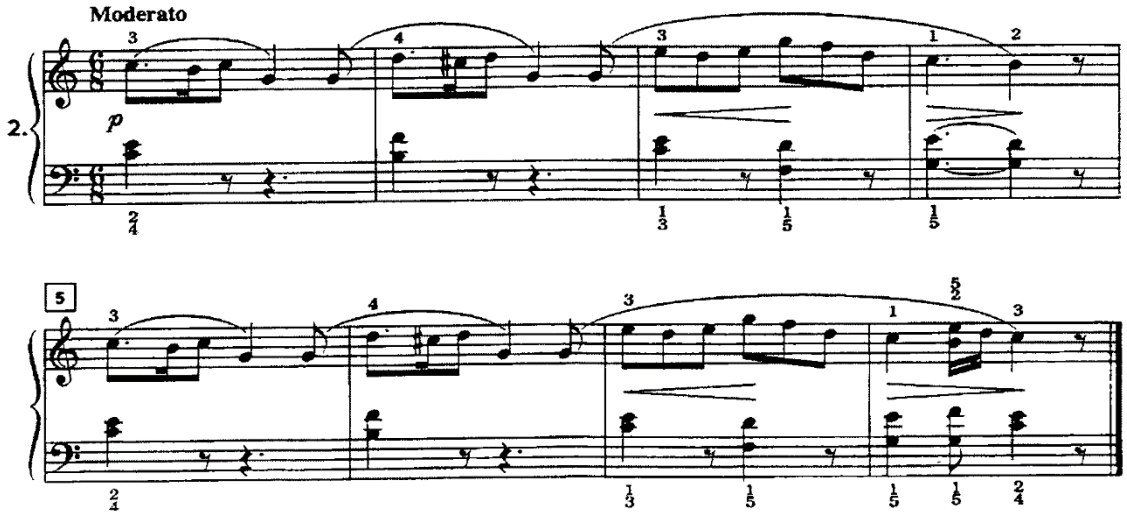


4. Perform ONE of the following solo repertoire pieces musically.
    a. Bartók: Jest or Happy Dance (from *For Children*, Vol 1, no. 27)
    b. Heller: The Avalanche, Op. 45, no. 2 (from *25 Studies)*

5. Transpose a late elementary piece (both hands) up or down a major or minor 2nd. Here is a representative example. You will be provided with a different excerpt at the exam.



6. Sight read a late elementary piece of solo repertoire. Here is a representative example. You will be provided with a different excerpt at the exam.



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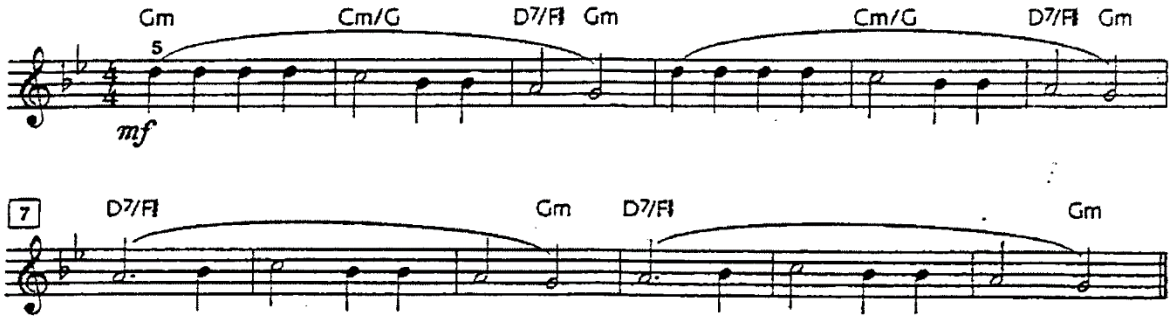
7. Play an open-score example. Here is a representative example. You will be provided with a different example at the exam.

MVK 3131

1. Perform any of the 12 major scales and harmonic minor scales, played hands together, 2 octaves without any visual aids.

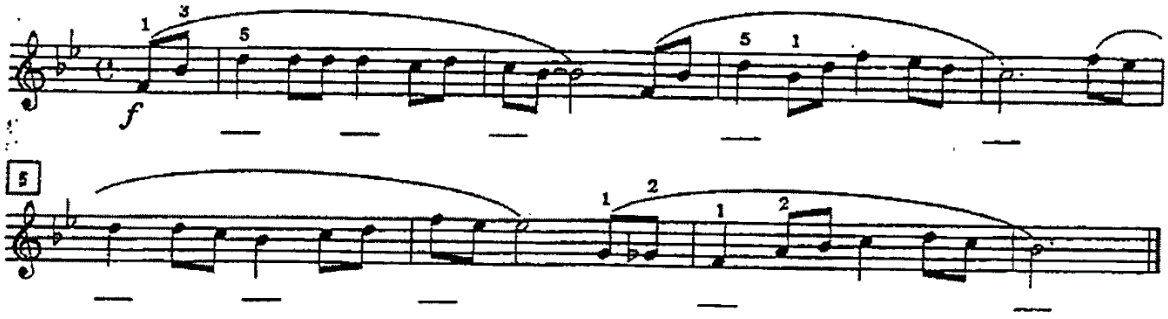
2. Perform the five types of seventh chords with any note as the root.

3. Harmonize a minor melody using the i, iv and V7 chords in the left hand and transpose up or down a major or minor 3rd at sight. Here is a representative example. You will be provided with a different melody at the exam.

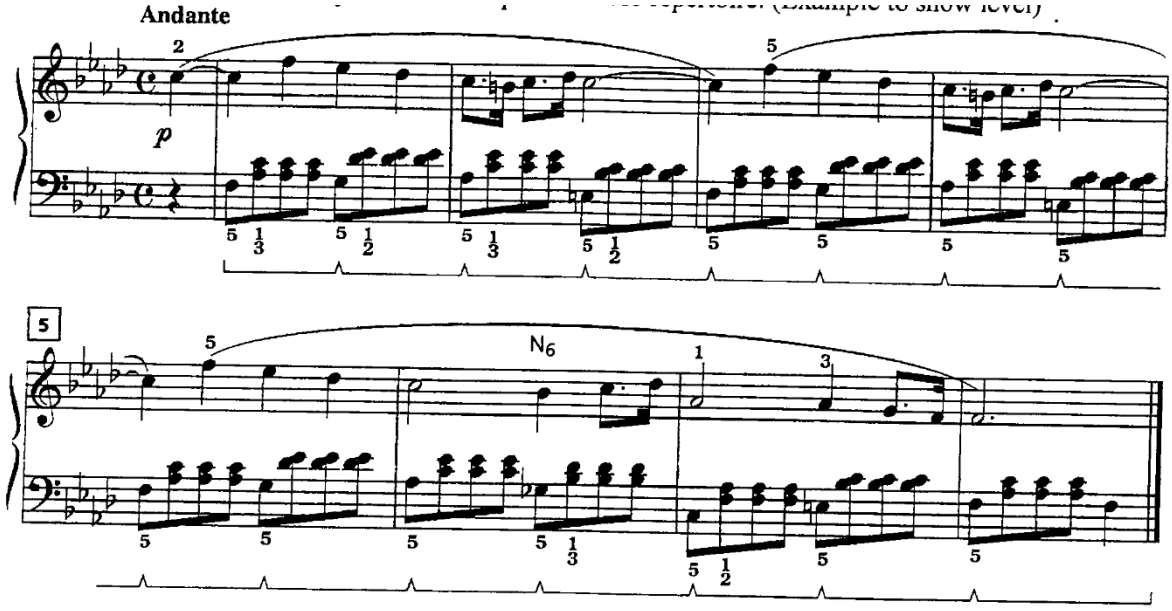


4. Perform ONE of the following solo repertoire pieces musically.
    a. Schumann: Important Event (from *Scenes from Childhood*, Op. 15, no. 6)
    b. Grieg: Album-leaf, Op. 12, no. 7 (from *Lyric Pieces*)

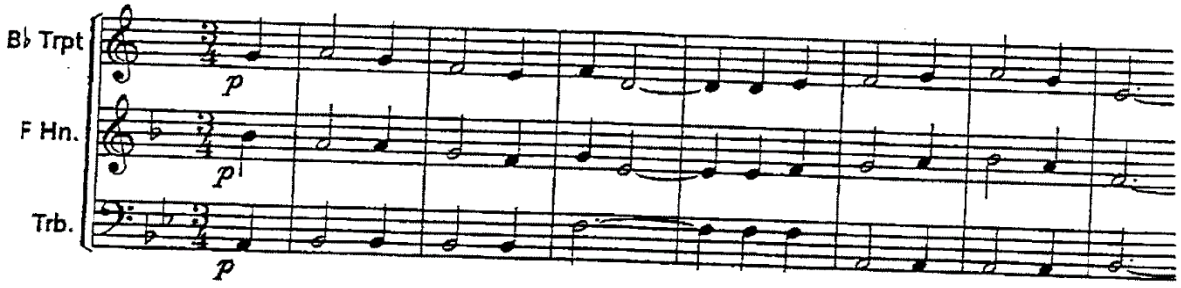
5. Harmonize a melody using at least one secondary dominant chord. Here is a representative example. You will be provided with a different melody at the exam.



6. Sight read an early intermediate piece of solo repertoire. Here is a representative example. You will be provided with a different excerpt at the exam.



7. Play an open-score example – either a choral score OR an instrumental score with transposing instruments. Here are representative examples. You will be provided with different excerpts at the exam.



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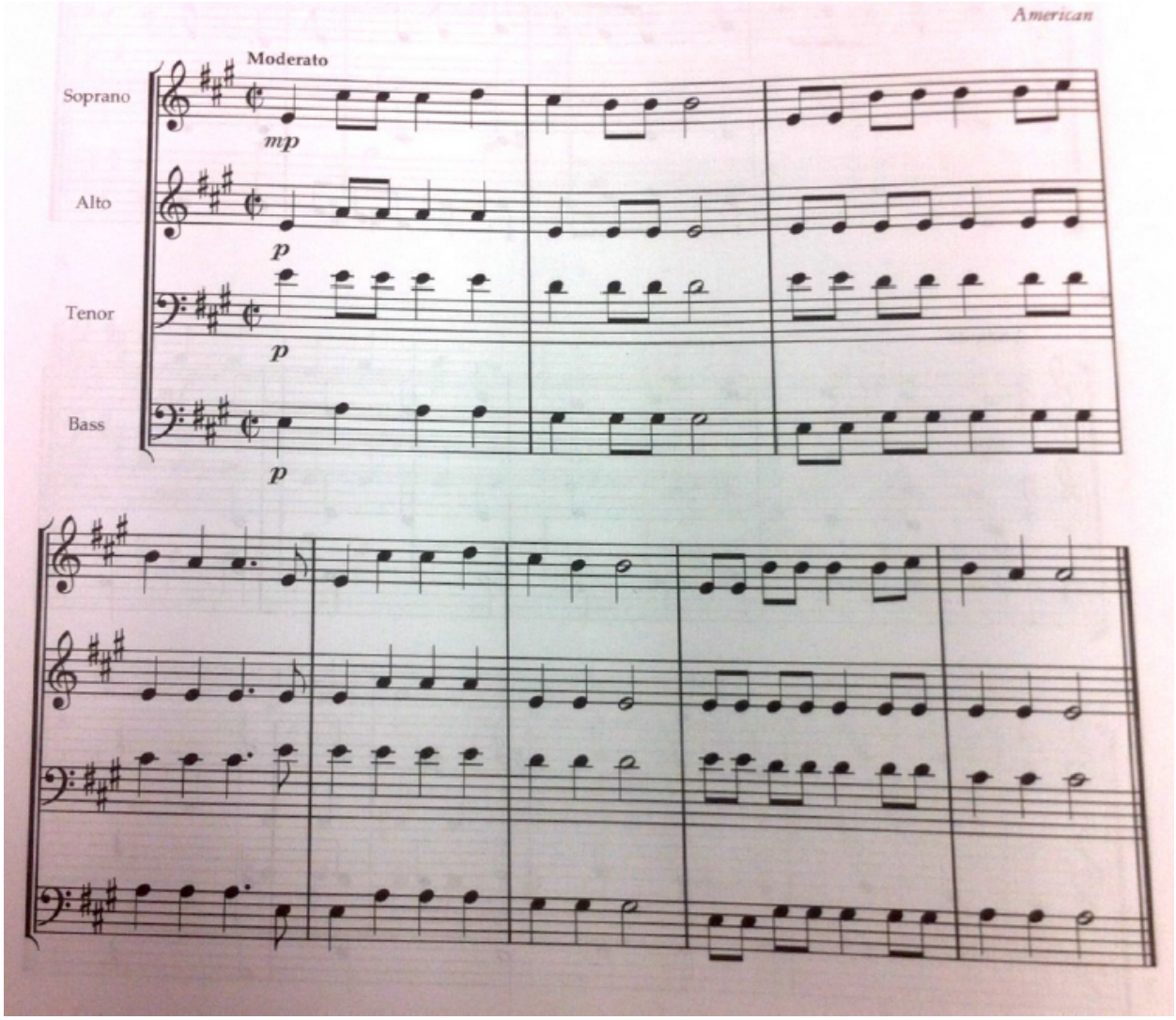
Moderato
Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass
mp
p
p
p