



Level Four Assessment (piano)

To complete this level, students must demonstrate fluency in the following areas:

Technique

***Please use the Scales and Chords Set 4 to prepare for this assessment**

Must demonstrate:

- Any technique taught in an earlier level
- The ability play parallel and relative one-octave major scales to any given key
- Common Ornamentations: Trill and Mordent
- How to play recognize and play common articulations introduced at any earlier level.

Must be able to quickly identify:

- **ALL** Major scales and key signatures
- Intervals: All intervals required in earlier levels and, triads (A4/d5) and Major and minor 6ths and Major and minor 7ths.

Student must be able to play the following with good technique with metronome at 72bpm:

- All major one-octave scales
- All **natural minor** one-octave scales

Sight Reading

Rhythmic Reading: The student must be able to sight read two contrasting 16-bar rhythmic examples in any time signature used before plus 5/4, 9/8 and 12/8 time while maintaining a steady beat (student chooses tempo). The student will have 45 seconds to mentally practice each example before performing. Note values may include:

- All note values from previous levels
- Syncopated rhythms including eighth notes on upbeats
- Sixteenth note groups with rests in the middle or end of group
- Triplet groups with rests on the 2nd or 3rd eighth note(s)

Melodic Reading: The student must perform two contrasting 8 bar grand staff reading example in 2/4, 5/4, 6/8 or 9/8 time while maintaining a steady beat. The student will have 45 seconds to mentally practice before performing. Examples will follow the following parameters:

- Can include any elements required in any previous level
- At least one example will be in a minor key
- May include Major and minor scale and chord pattern

- May include Major or minor triads in various inversions
- Will include some dynamics and articulations the student is required to know at this level

Chord Reading: Student must accompany an adjudicator in a common popular style. The example will be in a Major or minor key and will utilize common Major and minor triads. Students must demonstrate the following:

- Playing root note in left hand
- Using good voice leading between chords in right hand
- Varying the accompanying style between 2 sections of music
- Chords will be no more than 1 per measure at this level.
- Student must create an improvised solo (2 chord) solo which will be at the end of the piece. The student may trade soloing with the accompanist 4 measures at a time.

Ear Training

The Student must be able to identify the following by ear:

- If a musical excerpt is in a major or minor key
- Various common chord progressions in Major and minor keys using primary chords such as:
 - i iv V i

- I V Vi IV I
- I ii V I
- If a music excerpt is in 3/4, 4/4 5/4 or 9/8 time
- Which rhythm is being played from a choice of two.
- Intervals: All with specific qualities. Examples will be played melodically.

They will have the opportunity to hear each example 2 times.

Performance

The student must perform 3 contrasting songs in 3 different keys and at least 1 different time signature. At least one should be in a minor key. 2 of the 3 must be fully written out. 1 of the 3 must use chord symbol interpretation in a pop or jazz style. Memorization is required for 2 songs. Two songs must be 32 measures or more. The other can be 16 measures or more. The songs must reinforce the requirements at this level and should include the following:

- At least one piece must include scales and chords at this level (played melodically or harmonically)
- One piece must include technique introduced at this level.

- An extra copy of sheet music must be presented to the adjudicator at the start of the evaluation.

Music Theory

*Suggested Text: Basics of Keyboard Theory **Level 4** by Julie McIntosh Johnson

The student must be able to identify the following:

- Note Identification: Must be able to recite **ALL** notes on and above and below both staves including two ledger lines above and below each staff within 60 seconds or less.
- **ALL** Major and Minor Key Signatures
- Major and minor triads in any inversion
- Find the minor key for any Major key and visa versa.
- The student must be able to identify all of the above in a short musical excerpt plus:
 - Anything introduced in previous levels and in the list above
 - Key the song is in (with or without key signature)
 - Modulations to relative or parallel minor keys.
 - Intervals: Any introduced at this level and in previous levels

- Major and minor triads played melodically or harmonically in any inversion.
- Notes that are affected by accidentals
- Notes that are affected by the key signature
- Various time signatures
- Various symbols up to this level including:
 - Trills, mordents
 - Dynamics symbols learned up to this level
 - Accents learned up to this level (staccato, legato, fermata, etc.)
 - Tempos: Largo, lento, andante, moderato, allegro, vivace and presto