



The Music Entrance Assessment

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The Music Entrance Assessment

Students seeking to register for MUSC 1101: Materials of Music I – our regular first-term course in music theory – must normally write our Music Entrance Assessment. MUSC 1101 is a required course in our Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Arts (Major or Honours in Music) and Minor in Music programs.

The Music Entrance Assessment is designed to help us assess your knowledge in music theory and aural musicianship skills. Success in the Assessment is necessary for registration in Materials of Music I. If the Assessment reveals your knowledge and skills to be weak, we may require you to take our preparatory course (MUSC 1001: Fundamentals of Music) before proceeding to Materials of Music I.

The Music Entrance Assessment is taken online. When you have received a Mount Allison email address and password, we will register you to write the Assessment and will send you instructions on the procedure for doing so.

A Sample Entrance Assessment

Our Entrance Assessment is in two parts:

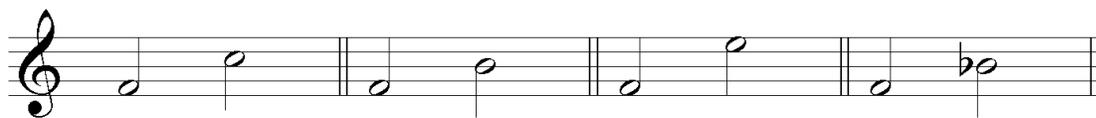
1. **Aural Musicianship Skills**, in which we assesses your proficiency at a number of basic aural skills; and
2. **Musical Knowledge**, in which we assesses your knowledge of theory rudiments, of common Italian musical terms, and of basic musical and historical concepts.

The sample Assessment below is shorter than the actual one – it has fewer examples – but it is otherwise quite similar.

Part 1: Aural Musicianship Skills

Question 1: Melodic Interval Recognition

You will hear melodic intervals (eight in the actual Assessment). For each interval four choices are given, as in the single example below. Select and circle the correct one. (Each interval, and all other aural examples, will be played twice.)



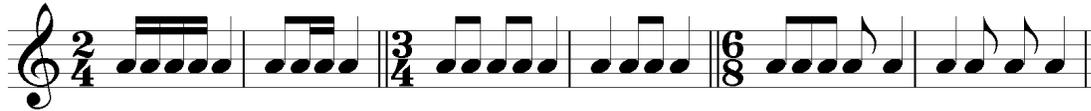
Question 2: Harmonic Interval Recognition

You will hear eight harmonic intervals. For each interval four choices are given, as in the single example below. Select and circle the correct one.



Question 3: Rhythmic Pattern Recognition

You will hear four rhythmic patterns. For each pattern three choices are given, as in the single example below. Select and circle the correct one.



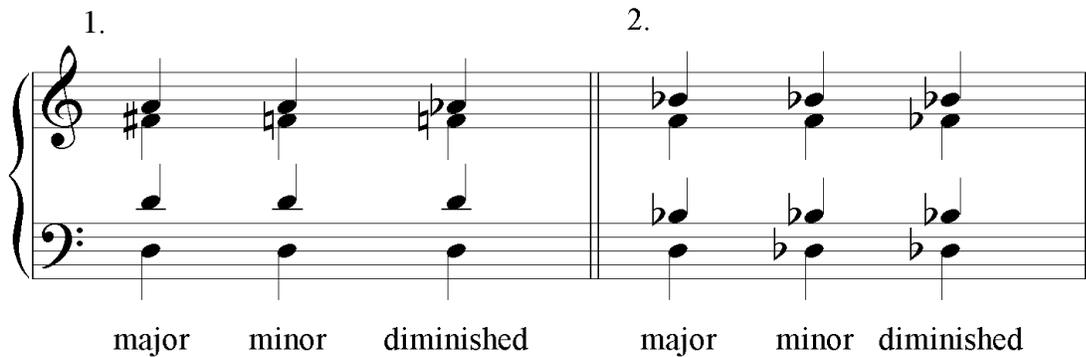
Question 4: Melodic Pattern Recognition

You will hear four melodic patterns. For each pattern three choices are given, as in the single example below. Select and circle the correct one.



Question 5: Triad Quality Recognition

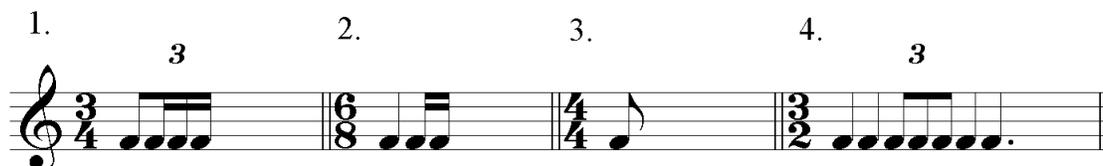
You will hear six triads. Each of these triads will be either major, minor, or diminished in quality. From the three choices given for each triad, as in the two examples below, select and circle the one you hear.



Part 2: Musical Knowledge

Question 1: Notation of Rhythm

b) Add a **single note** at the end of each measure to complete the measure in the given metre.



c) Add a **single rest** at the end of each measure to complete the measure in the given metre.

1. 2. 3. 4.

d) Add the correct time signatures to the following passages.

1. 2.

Question 2: Scales

Write the scales below in both ascending and descending patterns. **Do not** use key signatures, but use accidentals as necessary. Assume that each accidental affects only the note it directly precedes.

A-flat major

B melodic minor

Question 3: Chords and Cadence Types

Identify the chords (using roman-numeral and figured-bass symbols) and identify the types of cadences found in the following examples.

major key minor key major key major key

chords: ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

cadences: _____ _____ _____ _____

Question 4: Key Signatures and Scale Degrees

Write the correct key signatures and the indicated scale degrees for the following keys.

F minor	B major	B-flat major	C-sharp major
dominant	mediant	tonic	submediant

Question 5: Written Intervals

a) Write notes at the following intervals **above** the given notes. Do not alter the given notes.

minor sixth	augmented fourth

Write notes at the following intervals **below** the given notes. Do not alter the given notes.

minor third	diminished fifth

Question 6: Italian Musical Terms

Match each Italian term in the left column with **one** English definition in the right column (Not all definitions in the right column have matches in the left.)

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| <i>vivace</i> | _____ | a) humorously, joyously |
| <i>giocoso</i> | _____ | b) strongly accented |
| <i>dal segno</i> | _____ | c) from the sign |
| <i>legato</i> | _____ | d) sweetly |
| | | e) smoothly |
| | | f) quick, lively |

Question 7: Musical and Historical Concepts

Match each term in the left column with **one** definition in the right column. (Not all definitions in the right column have matches in the left.)

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| binary form | _____ | a) the best-known Italian opera composer of the 19th century |
| fugue | _____ | b) music in which elements are left to chance |
| syncopation | _____ | c) an upsetting of the normal metre or beat |
| Giuseppe Verdi | _____ | d) two-part (A B) form with each part normally repeated |
| symphonic poem | _____ | e) an 18th-century Italian composer of symphonies |
| | | f) a polyphonic form in which one or more themes are developed using imitation |
| | | g) a single-movement orchestral piece inspired by an extra-musical subject |