



✓ *Victoria College Examinations*
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MELODICA

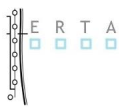


Victoria College of Music and Drama, London Ltd

Founded 1890

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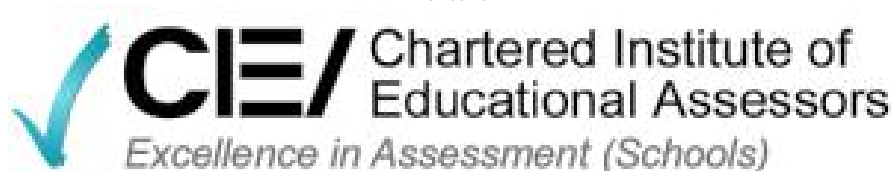
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Melodica Syllabus

Member of



ABOUT THE VCM

Victoria College of Music and Drama, London Ltd. is an independent body providing examinations in Music, Speech, and Drama subjects. It has held examination sessions throughout the British Isles and certain overseas countries since it was founded in 1890. It no longer operates a full-time teaching institution. The VCM is a corporate member of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, the Incorporated Society of Musicians, the Music Education Council, the Association of Teachers of Singing, the European Piano Teachers Association, the European Recorder Teachers Association, the Society of Recorder Players, the European String Teachers Association the Society of Teachers of Speech & Drama, the National Association of Music Educators, the Association of British Choral Directors, the Schools Music Association of Great Britain and is an institutional member of the College of Teachers and abides by its code of practice.

Further details about Victoria College can be found on our website:

www.Vcmexams.com

PASS MARKS

Introductory Grades	65%
Grades 1 to 3	65%
with Merit	80%;
with Distinction	90%
Merit is shown as %	Honours+in Ireland
Medal examinations	75%



WHAT THE EXAMINERS ARE LOOKING FOR

Examiners are looking for a combination of skill, knowledge and understanding. Questions are asked in a manner which assesses the candidate's depth of understanding, not merely the ability to repeat definitions. Ingenuity, variety, musicianship, and a sense of style are rewarded, as well as technical skill and musical accuracy.

OWN COMPOSITIONS Candidates for Grades 1 to 8 may perform their own compositions in lieu of Musicianship Tests. Further guidance is set out in *Crazy Composing* available from www.vcmpublications.co.uk.

REGULATIONS

All entries are accepted on the conditions laid down in *General Regulations and Information*, a copy of which is available free of charge. It is also on our website: www.vcmexams.com

ENTRY FORMS

All *grades* and *medal* examinations can be entered on white entry forms with no more than ten candidates on a page. Please use the code MA in the column headed %subject+ and the letter(s) or numbers in the %grade no.+column.

QUESTIONS

Questions are based principally on the music performed; but in addition examiners are at liberty to ask questions on notes, rests, musical terms and signs, key and time-signatures, according to the Grade. Also specifically on minor keys; perfect, major, and minor intervals (Grade 3 upwards).

SIGHT READING

Sight Reading tests are included from Preparatory level upwards. The relative standard will be that of approximately two grades below the grade being taken. Examiners will be at liberty to discuss the Sight Reading Test with candidates as part of the Questions.

PIECES

Candidates are required to prepare the whole of the pieces they have selected from the lists, but the examiner may stop the candidate at any given point or ask for certain sections to be performed, or to omit repeats where appropriate.

SCALES, ARPEGGIOS, ETC.

The examiner will request a representative sample of those specified for a particular examination. Candidates will not be expected to perform scales specified for earlier grades.

PHOTOCOPIES

All VCM and LMP publications are copyright. Photocopying of LMP publications is not permissible and **candidates using unauthorised photocopies at examinations will be disqualified**. It is acceptable, however, to use a photocopy for the second copy when the syllabus requires one to be handed to the examiner, provided the original is also brought to the examination. It is also acceptable to use photocopies of parts of long pieces to avoid awkward page turns, again provided the original is also brought to the examination.

EXEMPTION FROM QUESTIONS AT PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS

Candidates who have passed certain VCM Theoretical Examinations are entitled to claim full marks for questions at Practical Examinations as follows:

- Grade 1 Theory exempts up to and including Preliminary Practical
- Grade 1A Theory exempts up to and including Preparatory
- Grade 2 Theory exempts up to and including Grade 3 Practical
- Grade 3 Theory exempts up to and including Grade 5 Practical

London Music Press publications

London Music Press (LMP) Publications are available on-line post free from
www.vcmpublications.co.uk

They can also be ordered by post: an order form is available on request.

EXAM SHEETS

Exam sheets are published by London Music Press (LMP) the College's own in-house publisher. They contain Exercises and Pieces listed in the syllabus other than those shown under the names of other publishers. Scales for Introductory exams are also included.

CRAZY COMPOSING

Crazy Composing is a step by step guide for teachers and pupils wishing to perform an Own Composition in lieu of Musicianship Tests.

SPECIMEN MUSICIANSHIP TESTS

Specimen musicianship tests are available showing the type of tests examiners will set.

SPECIMEN SIGHT READING

Specimen musicianship tests are available showing the type of tests examiners will set,

PAST THEORY PAPERS

Sets of the last six available past Theory exam papers are available for each grade.

Non-London Music Press publications.

Some of the pieces set in the syllabus include options that are published by commercial publishers.

These can be obtained from music shops or from websites such as www.Musicroom.com

White Publishing UK maintain a limited stock of non-LMP publications.

In case of difficulty contact the College.

Other VCM Syllabuses for Wind subjects

Accordion
Bassoon
Brass
Clarinet
Contrabassoon

Flute
Oboe
Ocarina
Recorder
Saxophone
Xaphoon

plus a wide range of other Music, Speech and Drama subjects.

Copies of all syllabuses are available free of charge or can be downloaded from the VCM website at
www.vcmexams.com



London Music Press

the College's own in-house publisher.

*LMP exists to provide an inexpensive method for candidates to obtain set pieces for examinations at economical prices.
All LMP publications are guaranteed to remain available in print for the duration of the syllabus*

LMP publications are available to order on-line at
www.vcmpublications.co.uk

All orders are despatched post free worldwide

Discounts for quantity.

All LMP publications are guaranteed to remain available in print for the duration of the syllabus

Introductory Examinations

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		MA	A

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		MA	B

A -First Steps in Melodica Playing

Exercises (20 Marks)

Candidates must choose and perform either one of the exercises set out in the Exam Sheet for the grade.

Scalework (10 marks)

To play the scale of C major, one octave.

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Let's Walk
Melody
Take Your Time
Oats and Beans

Questions (10 marks)

B -Preliminary Melodica Playing

Exercises (20 Marks)

Candidates must choose and perform either one of the exercises set out in the Exam Sheet for the grade.

Scalework (10 marks)

To play the Scales and Arpeggios of C and F major, one octave.

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play any two of the following pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Lightly Row
Twinkle Twinkle Little Star
Summer Fun
Autumn Tale

Questions (10 marks)

These introductory examinations should be shown on entry forms in the Grade column as simply A, B, C or D as appropriate

Introductory Examinations

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		M A	C

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		M A	D

C- Preparatory Melodica Playing

Exercises (20 Marks)

Candidates must choose and perform either one of the exercises set out in the Exam Sheet for the grade.

Scalework (10 marks)

To play the Scales and Arpeggios of C, F and G major, one octave.

Solo Pieces (50 marks)

To play any two of the following pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Au Clair de la Lune
Evening Song
In My Garden
Robins\$ Waltz

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

D - Advanced Preparatory Melodica Playing

Exercises (20 Marks)

Candidates must choose and perform either one of the exercises set out in the Exam Sheet for the grade.

Scalework (10 marks)

To play the Scales and Arpeggios of C, F, and G, one octave.

Solo Pieces (50 marks)

To play any two of the following pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

All Through the Night
Blue Bells of Scotland
Irish Jig
English March

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

Grade 1 Melodica Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		M A	1

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To choose and play any one Study from List A and any two pieces from List B

List A

Grade 1 Melodica Exam Sheet LMP

Study No. 1

Study No. 2

Study No. 3

List B

Grade 1 Melodica Exam Sheet LMP

Strolling in Central Park

Jalapeno Dance

Hills in the Highlands

Formula One

An Own Choice piece suitable for the Grade

Scalework (10 marks)

One Octave, tongued and slurred

Scale and arpeggio of F, G, C major; A minor

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)

Either a) Musicianship Tests

Test 1: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 time. 2 bars in length, played twice by the examiner.

Test 2: To identify any note in the arpeggio C/E/G/C', Middle C being given

Test 3: To echo a five-note phrase played twice by the examiner.

or b) Own Composition

Perform an own composition of about 8 bars in the key of C major. It should be balanced as an opening 4-bar phrase which forms a question and a 4-bar phrase that forms an answer.

Grade 2 Melodica Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		M A	2

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To choose and play any one Study from List A and any two pieces from List B

List A

Grade 2 Melodica Exam Sheet LMP

Study No. 4

Study No. 5

Study No. 6

List B

Grade 2 Melodica Exam Sheet LMP

Church Bells

March of the Elves

Leningrad Lesson

Applewood Dream

An Own Choice piece suitable for the Grade

Scalework (10 marks)

One Octave, tongued and slurred

Scale and arpeggio of C, F, G and D major; A and E minor

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)

Either a) Musicianship Tests

Test 4: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 time. 2 bars in length, played twice by the examiner.

Test 5: To identify any note C to G, played from C

Test 6: To hum, play or sing a group of 5 or 6 notes played twice by the examiner, and to complete the phrase by adding **one** note

or b) Own Composition

Perform an own composition of about 16 bars in the key of C, G or F major. It should be balanced as an opening 4-bar phrase which forms a question, a 4-bar phrase that forms an answer, a repeat of the opening 4-bar phrase, and a second answering phrase

Grade 3 Melodica Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		MA	3

Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To choose and play any one Study from List A and any two pieces from List B

List A

Grade 3 Melodica Exam Sheet **LMP**

Study No. 7

Study No. 8

Study No. 9

List B

Grade 3 Melodica Exam Sheet **LMP**

Hopping Mad

Wait A Minute!

Forest Fantasy

The Dancing Daffodil

An Own Choice piece suitable for the Grade

Scalework (10 marks)

Two Octaves, tongued and slurred

Scale and arpeggio of C, F, G, D and B flat major;

A, E and D minor

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

EITHER of the following two tests (10 marks)

Either a) Musicianship Tests

Test 7: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 or 3/4 time, 2 bars, played twice by the examiner and identify the time as 2/4 or 3/4

Test 8: To identify any note(s) in the chords of C, G, or F, played from the root note.

Test 9: To hum, sing or whistle a group of 5 or 6 notes played twice by the examiner, and then to complete the phrase by adding two or three notes.

or b) Own Composition

Perform an own composition in simple binary form in the key of C, G, F, D or B flat major.

Junior Bronze Medal in Melodica Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		MA	JBM

Solo Pieces (60 Marks)

To choose and perform one Study and two Pieces from the grade 3 list

Plus and own choice piece (20 marks)

Suitable to the grade and not listed elsewhere in the syllabus

Questions (10 marks)

Sight Reading (10 marks)

Higher Grades

There are no Melodica exam grades above this level at the present time.

If teachers believe there is a rationale for higher grades, VCM is always open to suggestions.

Ensemble exams

VCM offers examinations for Small and Large Ensembles. These are often a good way to round off a session of Solo examinations. Melodicas can form an Ensemble themselves or may join with other instruments.