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Please see the *Violin Syllabus, 2013 Edition* for all other general information related to the examination program, including registration, examination regulations, resources, and frequently asked questions.
The academic year runs from September to August. Each academic year, gold medals are awarded to candidates who achieve exceptional examination results. No application is required.

Gold Medals
Gold medals are awarded by province or region to candidates who receive the highest marks for their respective practical examination. To be eligible, a candidate must have completed all theory co-requisites for the respective grade.

Eligibility for Gold Medals
- Candidates must obtain a minimum of 85 percent in the practical examination (Parts 1 and 2 combined), a minimum of 70 percent in the written examination (Part 3), a minimum of 70 percent in each of the co-requisite theory examinations, and a minimum of 60 percent in the co-requisite piano examination.
- Candidates taking the complete practical examination in one session (Parts 1 and 2 combined) and candidates taking the practical examination in two sessions (Parts 1 and 2 separately) are both eligible for the Gold Medal.
- Candidates who use the Performer's ARCT in place of the Performance of Repertoire section of the Teacher's ARCT are still eligible for the Gold Medal.
EXAMINATION REPERTOIRE

The Violin Syllabus, 2013 Edition lists the repertoire for violin examinations. Information given for each item includes:

- ✔ the composer
- ✔ the larger work of which the selection is a part (where applicable)
- ✔ the title of the selection
- ✔ an anthology or collection in which the selection can be found (where applicable)
- ✔ performance directions (where applicable) indicating the section(s) or movement(s) of a work to be prepared
- ✔ the publisher of a suggested edition (where applicable)

**Da Capo Signs and Repeats**

- When performing repertoire at an examination, candidates should observe da capo signs.
- Repeat signs should ordinarily be ignored.

**Memory**

It is expected, except where noted, that all repertoire selections in the examination be memorized. Candidates will receive a maximum deduction of 2 marks per repertoire selection that is not memorized.

- ARCT Candidates are expected to perform repertoire from Lists A, C, and D from memory. Up to two marks per repertoire selection will be deducted if music is used.
- Repertoire from List B (sonatas) need not be memorized.
- Etudes and orchestral excerpts need not be memorized and no extra marks will be awarded for memory.
- Technical tests (scales, arpeggios, and double stops) must be played from memory.

**Syllabus Repertoire Lists**

The repertoire for each grade is divided into lists, according to genre or style. Candidates are encouraged to choose a program that includes a variety of musical styles, periods, and keys.

The repertoire for Grade 9 through ARCT is divided into four lists:

- List A: concertos
- List B: sonatas
- List C: concert repertoire
- List D: unaccompanied repertoire

**Orchestral Excerpts**

Candidates may select the specified passages from standard violin orchestral parts; measure numbers for all excerpts are included in the lists.

**Copyright and Photocopying**

Federal and International copyright laws prohibit the use of photocopies without the permission of the publisher. The use of unauthorized photocopies for examination purposes constitutes copyright infringement as outlined in the Copyright Act.

Additional information about Federal copyright law is available through the Copyright Board Canada and online at www.cb-cda.gc.ca.

Please note that photocopied music will not be permitted in the examination room. Candidates who bring photocopies to the examination will not be examined.

Candidates should bring all music to be performed to the examination. Candidates who wish to photocopy one page of a selection for the purpose of facilitating a page turn may do so with permission from the publisher.
REPERTOIRE SUBSTITUTIONS

ARCT Candidates who wish to expand their choice of examination repertoire may replace one selection from the repertoire listed for their grade with a substitute selection.

- Prior approval is required.
- The replacement selection must be of equal difficulty and musical quality to works listed in the Syllabus for that grade.
- Candidates wishing to include a substitute selection on their examination program should complete a Substitute Piece Request form (available at www.examinations.rcmusic.ca).
- Send the form, together with the appropriate fee and a copy of the substitute piece, to The Royal Conservatory. (Photocopies used for this purpose should be marked “For Approval Only”; these photocopies will be destroyed once a decision has been made.) Published music will be returned along with the approved form.
- Substitute Piece Request forms must be received before the application deadline.
- Bring the approved Substitute Piece Request form to your examination and give it to the examiner.
- Candidates are advised to prepare an alternate work in case the request is denied. Please note that marks will be deducted from the final examination mark for the use of an unapproved piece.

SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINATIONS

Supplemental examinations are offered for any section, except Repertoire, of the Teacher's ARCT practical examination for candidates who wish to improve their mark in a particular section of an examination, according to the following conditions:

- Supplemental examinations are not available for the Repertoire section of an examination.
- Supplemental examinations are taken during regularly scheduled examination sessions.
- A supplemental examination comprises only one section of an examination.
- Candidates may take a maximum of two supplemental examinations per complete examination.
- Any supplemental examinations must be completed within two years of the original examination.

In order to be eligible to take a supplemental examination at the ARCT level, candidates must have attempted the complete examination within the last two years, achieved a minimum total mark of 70, and obtained at least 70 percent in the Repertoire section of the examination.

Candidates who choose to take Part 1 (practical examination) and Part 2 (Viva Voce examination) of the Teacher's ARCT at different sessions will not be eligible to take supplemental examinations until they have taken the examinations for both Part 1 and Part 2.
General Instructions
- All scales, arpeggios, and broken and solid double stops are to be played from memory, ascending and descending, in the stated keys, with the required bowings. Candidates may use either the suggested fingering or another logical pattern.
- Metronome markings given in the chart for each grade indicate minimum speed.
- Intonation, tone quality, and fluency are important factors in the evaluation of a candidate's performance.

Three-Octave Scales
- Candidates for the Teacher's ARCT must use the Galamian pattern.
Teacher's ARCT

The Teacher's ARCT will be awarded only to candidates eighteen years of age or older.

Please see the Violin Syllabus, 2013 Edition for information on Theory Prerequisites and Co-requisites, Classification of Marks, and for other important details regarding the application for an ARCT examination. Candidates for the Teacher's ARCT are strongly recommended to study for at least two years after passing the Grade 10 examination and to have at least one year of teaching experience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher's ARCT</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repertoire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>three</em> selections: one each from the repertoire lists for the Grade 9, Grade 10, and Performer's ARCT examinations</td>
<td>20 (14) (no mark breakdown)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orchestral Excerpts</td>
<td>10 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Tests</td>
<td>10 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ear Tests</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meter</td>
<td>10 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intervals</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chords</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playback</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sight Reading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playing</td>
<td>10 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clapping</td>
<td>4 + 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viva Voce</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) Pedagogical Principles</td>
<td>10 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Applied Pedagogy</td>
<td>30 (21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total possible marks</td>
<td>100*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Teacher's ARCT candidates must achieve either an overall mark of 75 or a minimum of 70 percent in each section of the examination in order to pass. (70-percent figures are given in parentheses.)
PART 1: Performance of Repertoire, Orchestral Excerpts, Technical Requirements, Ear Tests, and Sight Reading

REPERTOIRE

Candidates should prepare three selections listed in the Violin Syllabus, 2013 Edition:
- one from the repertoire listed for Grade 9
- one from the repertoire listed for Grade 10
- one from the repertoire listed for the Performer's ARCT

The program must include:
- a concerto (first movement only)
- a sonata (two contrasting movements)
- a concert piece

Candidates are encouraged to choose a program that includes contrasting musical styles, periods, and keys. List B sonatas need not be memorized, but all other repertoire selections should be performed from memory.

ORCHESTRAL EXCERPTS

Candidates should be prepared to play two excerpts from those listed for the Performer's ARCT examination in the Violin Syllabus, 2013 Edition: one from List 1 (orchestral tutti parts), and one from List 2 (excerpts which include concertmaster solos and chamber music repertoire). Please note that orchestral excerpts need not be memorized.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should be prepared to play any of the technical tests for the Grade 10 examination listed in the Violin Syllabus, 2013 Edition. Please note that scales, arpeggios, and double stops must be memorized.

EAR TESTS

Meter

Candidates will be asked to identify the time signatures of four-measure passages. The examiner will play each passage once.
- time signatures: $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{3}{8}$, $\frac{5}{8}$, $\frac{9}{8}$

Intervals

Candidates may choose to:
(a) sing or hum the intervals listed below after the examiner has played the first note once, OR
(b) identify the intervals listed below after the examiner has played the interval once in broken form.
- above a given note: any interval within a major 9th
- below a given note: any interval within an octave
Chords

Candidates will be asked to identify, by chord symbols or names (I, tonic, V, dominant, etc.), the chords used in a four-measure phrase in a major key. The phrase will begin with a tonic chord and may include chords on the first, second, fourth, fifth, and sixth degrees of the scale. The final cadence may contain a cadential six-four chord and/or a dominant 7th chord.

The examiner will play the tonic chord once and then play the phrase twice in a slow to moderate tempo. During the second playing, the candidate will name each chord after it has been played by the examiner.

![Chord Example]

Melody Playback

Candidates will be asked to play back both parts of a two-part phrase of approximately three measures in a major key, either on their own instrument or on the piano. The examiner will name the key and play the tonic chord once on the piano. If viola is used for playback, the examiner will play the phrase twice on the piano, after which the candidate will play back the upper part. The examiner will then play the phrase twice more, and the candidate will play back the lower part. If piano is used for playback, the examiner will play the phrase three times consecutively after which the candidate will play back both parts together.

![Melody Example]

SIGHT READING

1. Candidates will be asked to play a given passage approximately equal in difficulty to repertoire of a Grade 9 level.
2. Candidates will be asked to play a passage equal in difficulty to repertoire of a Grade 5 level, demonstrating the musical features and characteristics of the piece.
3. Candidates will be asked to clap or tap the rhythm of a melody. A steady pulse and rhythmic precision are expected.
PART 2: Viva Voce Examination

A: Pedagogical Principles

This part of the examination will test the candidate’s knowledge of the principles of violin playing including:
- the construction of the violin
- the position and action of the fingers, hands, and arms
- the production of tone
- technical tools (such as exercises, studies/etudes, scales, and arpeggios) necessary for the development of intonation, shifting, bowings, and tone quality

B: Applied Pedagogy

Teaching Repertoire
Candidates should select a group of eighteen pieces from Violin Syllabus, 2013 Edition repertoire lists (three pieces for each of Grades 3 through 8). The works chosen from each grade should constitute a well-balanced group. A list of the repertoire must be given to the examiner.

Candidates will be asked to perform a selection of these works and discuss teaching problems that may be encountered, including details of style and interpretation. (Please note that these pieces need not be memorized, but the performance should be at an honors level for the grade.)

Demonstration Lesson
The examiner will select and perform one work from the candidate’s list of teaching repertoire. The candidate will be expected to detect errors in the examiner’s performance (notation, time values, rhythm, phrasing, interpretation, etc.), demonstrate corrections, and suggest practice strategies to address the problems.

PART 3: Teacher’s ARCT Written Examination

Examination length: 3 hours
Passing mark: 70 percent

Candidates should be prepared to discuss the following topics:
- issues likely to arise in teaching intonation, rhythm, tone, shifting, bowing, articulations, phrasing, style and interpretation, memorization, sight reading, and ear training
- knowledge of the history of the violin and performance practice for music of the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic eras
- solutions for common technical problems
- suitable teaching material for all levels, from beginner up to and including Grade 8
- ways in which a teacher may help a student to develop confidence and concentration

Candidates may be asked to add editorial markings to a short passage of violin music, including articulations, dynamics, phrasing, expression marks, Italian terms, and fingerings. The title and tempo of the composition will be given. Candidates may also be asked to write several short exercises designed to correct common technical problems encountered by violin students.

For a reading list and reference material, please see the Resources list in the Violin Syllabus, 2013 Edition.
THEORY PREREQUISITES

Advanced Rudiments
History 1: An Overview
Intermediate Harmony or Intermediate Keyboard Harmony
History 2: Middle Ages to Classical

THEORY CO-REQUISITES

History 3: 19th Century to Present
And any two of:
  Advanced Harmony or Advanced Keyboard Harmony
  Counterpoint
  Analysis

PIANO CO-REQUISITE

Grade 8 Piano