

Online Music Theory Examination (Grades 1 – 5)

Frequently Asked Questions – During Examination

Q1. Will a responsible adult be allowed in the room?

- A. For candidates who are under 18 and vulnerable adults, a Responsible Adult must be present in the room at the beginning of the exam to help with the initial set up and can be present in the room for the whole exam, if desired. Candidates aged 18 and over also have the option to have a Responsible Adult available but this is not compulsory. For any venues hosting multiple candidates, a Responsible Adult must be present for the whole exam.

Q2. What is proctor?

- A. Proctoring is a little like remote invigilation and is designed to check that individual candidates take their exams in accordance with ABRSM's regulations and requirements.

Q3. Will there be an invigilator to monitor the exam in real time?

- A. The candidate will be filmed for the duration of the exam via the webcam and exam software, and each exam will be reviewed by trained proctors. All are recorded and then reviewed at a later date.

Q4. How different is the exam from the previous paper-based format?

- A. The new question types include Multiple Choice, Drag & Drop, Fill in the blanks and matching questions.
The full marks will change from 100 to 75 marks. Candidates will need 50 marks to obtain a Pass, 60 marks for a Merit and 65 marks for a Distinction.

Q5. Can I choose to have exam questions in Chinese?

- A. Candidates can choose to have exam questions in Traditional or Simplified Chinese.

Q6. Can I use scrap paper and pencil or pen during the exam?

- A. Yes. This can be any type of paper (e.g. manuscript, plain) as long as it is blank and does not show any musical notation or any representation of the piano keyboard. Candidates must show any paper to the camera at the start of the exam to confirm that it is blank. At the end of the exam they must hold up the paper to the camera and destroy it, ideally by tearing it into pieces.

Q7. Can I go to toilet during the exam?

- A. Candidates are permitted to have one toilet break lasting no more than five minutes. Candidates should let the proctor know they are having a toilet break by speaking or holding up a written note to the camera. Candidates will not receive any additional time to complete their exam. If a candidate needs additional toilet breaks as part of alternative arrangements for their exam, they should contact ABRSM's Access Coordinator to discuss this.

Q8. Do I need to select a specific exam date?

- A. Not necessary. Candidates can take their exam on any date/time within the exam window specified. You do not have to select a specific date when you book.