

# Specimen Improvisation Tests Harmonic Stimulus

for Trinity College London exams from 2017 Initial-Grade 8

## Harmonic stimulus

The harmonic stimulus requires candidates to improvise unaccompanied in response to a chord sequence. Candidates are given a notated chord sequence, including chord symbols, which the examiner plays twice on the piano for candidates' reference. Candidates are then given 30 seconds' preparation time, during which they may prepare for their improvisation aloud if they wish. The test then follows. Candidates should improvise for the specified number of repeats, following the chord sequence. Please note that this test is always unaccompanied and the examiner will not provide a piano accompaniment for melodic instruments.

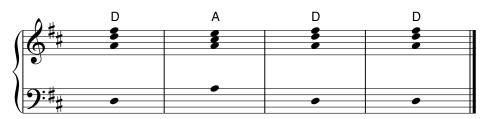
# Initial

Example 1 (all except violin & viola)



improvise for 4 bars

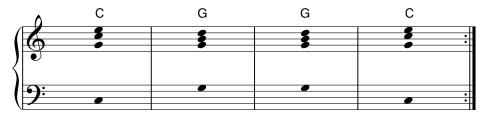
#### Example 2 (violin & viola)



improvise for 4 bars

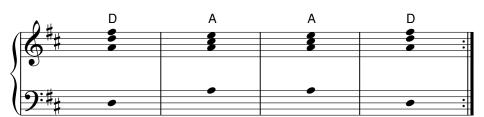
## Grade 1

**Example 1** (all except violin, viola, cello & double bass)



improvise for 8 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)

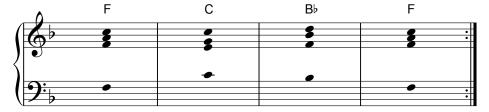
#### Example 2 (violin, viola, cello & double bass)



improvise for 8 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)

# Grade 2

**Example 1** (all except violin, viola, cello & double bass)



improvise for 8 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)

Example 2 (violin, viola, cello & double bass)



*improvise for 8 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)* 

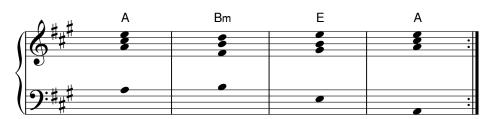
# Grade 3

Example 1 (all except violin & viola)



improvise for 8 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)

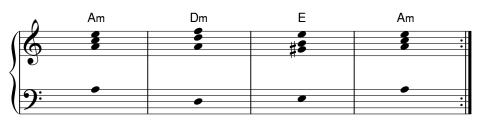
#### Example 2 (violin & viola)



 $improvise \ for \ 8 \ bars \ (ie \ 2 \ repetitions \ of \ the \ chord \ sequence)$ 

# Grade 4

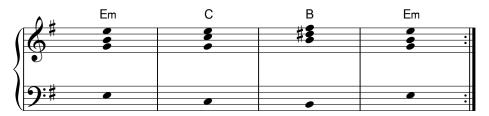
#### Example 1



improvise for 12 bars (ie 3 repetitions of the chord sequence)

## Grade 5

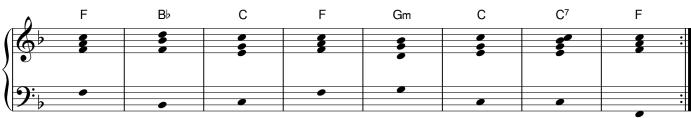
#### Example 1



*improvise for 12 bars (ie 3 repetitions of the chord sequence)* 

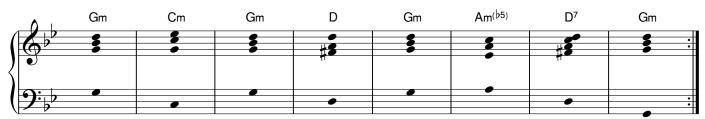
# **Grade 6**

#### Example 1 (major)



improvise for 16 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)

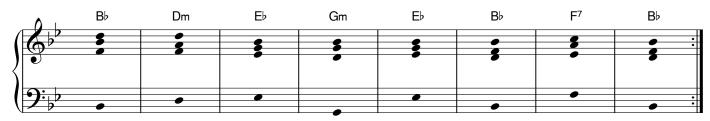
#### Example 2 (minor)



improvise for 16 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)

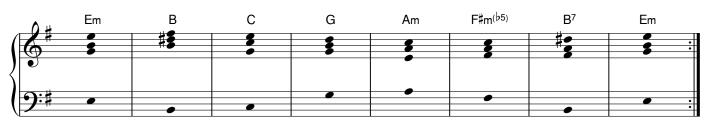
# Grade 7

#### Example 1 (major)



*improvise for 16 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)* 

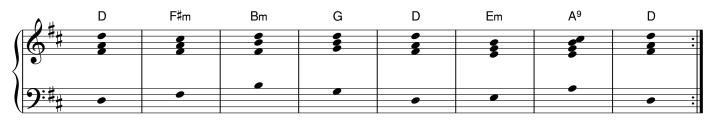
#### Example 2 (minor)



improvise for 16 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)

# Grade 8

# Example 1 (major)



improvise for 16 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)

# Example 2 (minor)



improvise for 16 bars (ie 2 repetitions of the chord sequence)