

Performance 1

| criteria | a fundamentally secure technique | some expressive and interpretative ability in projecting musical ideas | | a basic command of stage craft and appropriate performance conventions |
|------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Grades | | <i>Expression</i> | <i>Interpretation</i> | |
| A1-A5 Excellent | An excellent technique at this level. While not seamless, any problems rarely detract from a fluent performance. | Excellent at this level. There is much well-shaped playing and expressive ideas are projected with an overall clarity and sensitivity. | Style and idiom are well understood, and there is a well-projected understanding of musical structures, repertoire and context, with a creative and imaginative approach to interpretation | Confident stagecraft and command of performance. The performer projects a sense of their musical personality with some flair. |
| B1-3 Very good | A very secure technique at this level. Occasional slips and errors do not detract significantly from the performance. | Playing is very well shaped for this level. Expressive ideas are projected clearly and with some promising sensitivity. | An understanding of style and of structure, repertoire and context are projected with some creativity and imagination in interpretation although there is still scope for development | A generally confident rapport with the audience. The performer looks comfortable on stage. There is strong command of performance conventions |
| C1-3 Good | A good technique at this level. Any apparent weaknesses do not detract significantly from a strong overall performance. | There is a clear attempt to shape the music, although this is not consistently successful. Expressive qualities are mostly projected with clarity. | An appreciation of structure and style is projected with a general confidence in interpretation, although at times this is not convincing and/or consistent. | A generally confident rapport with the audience. The performer looks comfortable on stage and errors only very rarely manifest themselves visually. There is appropriate command of performance conventions |
| D1-3 Satisfactory | Evidence of a fundamental technical control. Some technical problems and are evident but these do not disrupt the performance excessively. | Expressive qualities are evident at times, although attention to detail in the shaping of the music is limited. | A basic appreciation of structure and style is projected with some confidence in interpretation, although this is not always convincing or consistent. | The performer looks generally comfortable on stage although errors may sometimes manifest themselves visually. The performer may display an incomplete command of performance conventions. |
| E1-2 Unsatisfactory | Limited control in the playing, displaying several elementary technical problems that significantly disrupt the performance. | Attempts to shape and phrase are not fully realised and there is a limited sense of expression. | The performer projects only a limited and incomplete understanding of structure and style, and/ or appropriate approaches to interpretation | The performer does not always appear comfortable onstage, and errors frequently manifest themselves visually. There is a limited command of appropriate performance conventions. |