Pieces: Grades 1-8

Mark	Pitch	Time	Tone	Shape	Performance
Distinction 27–30	 Highly accurate notes 	 Fluent, with flexibility 	Well projected	 Expressive, idiomatic 	 Assured
	and intonation	where appropriate	Sensitive use of tonal	musical shaping and	 Fully committed
		 Rhythmic character 	qualities	detail	Vivid communication
		well conveyed			of character and style
Merit 24–26	 Largely accurate notes 	 Sustained, effective 	Mainly controlled and	 Clear musical shaping, 	• Positive
	and intonation	tempo	consistent	well-realised detail	 Carrying musical
		Good sense of rhythm	Good tonal awareness		conviction
					 Character and style
					communicated
Pass 20-23	 Generally correct 	Suitable tempo	 Generally reliable 	 Some realisation of 	 Generally secure,
	notes	Generally stable pulse	Adequate tonal	musical shape and/or	prompt recovery from
	 Sufficiently reliable 	 Overall rhythmic 	awareness	detail	slips
	intonation to maintain	accuracy			Some musical
	tonality				involvement
Below Pass 17-19	 Frequent note errors 	Unsuitable and/or	Uneven and/or	 Musical shape and 	• Insecure, inadequate
	 Insufficiently reliable 	uncontrolled tempo	unreliable	detail insufficiently	recovery from slips
	intonation to maintain	 Irregular pulse 	 Inadequate tonal 	conveyed	 Insufficient musical
	tonality	Inaccurate rhythm	awareness		involvement
13-16	Largely inaccurate	Erratic tempo and/or	Serious lack of tonal	Musical shape and	Lacking continuity
	notes and/or intonation	pulse	control	detail largely unrealised	No musical
					involvement
10-12	 Highly inaccurate 	Incoherent tempo	No tonal control	No shape or detail	Unable to continue for
	notes and/or intonation	and/or pulse			more than a short
					section
0	No work offered	No work offered	No work offered	No work offered	No work offered