

Electronic Keyboard: Grade 4

EXAM STRUCTURE



The Grade 4 exam lasts 20 minutes and contains the following:

	Maximum marks
PIECE 1	22
PIECE 2	22
PIECE 3	22
TECHNICAL WORK	14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keyboard exercise Either scales & chord knowledge or exercises 	
SUPPORTING TESTS	20
Any TWO of the following:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sight reading Aural Improvisation Musical knowledge 	
TOTAL	100

PIECES

Candidates play a balanced programme of three pieces, chosen from the lists below. An own composition may be played instead of one listed piece. See pages 16-18 for further guidance.

Core repertoire

The following pieces are in Trinity's *Electronic Keyboard Pieces & Technical Work 2019-2022: Grade 4*.

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| 1. | BADELT/
ZIMMER | He's a Pirate (from <i>Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl</i>) |
| 2. | BEETHOVEN | Allegro (theme from <i>Symphony no. 5</i> , 4th movt) |
| 3. | BEETHOVEN | Pathétique (theme from <i>Piano Sonata no. 8</i> , 2nd movt) |
| 4. | BRAHMS | Hungarian Dance no. 5 |
| 5. | JOPLIN | Weeping Willow Rag |
| 6. | LOWRY | How Can I Keep from Singing? |
| 7. | SHAIMAN | You Can't Stop the Beat (from <i>Hairspray</i>) |
| 8. | SMITH | High Wire |
| 9. | TRAD. | Wade in the Water* |
| 10. | WAGNER | Ride of the Valkyries (from <i>Die Walküre</i>) |

* Own interpretation piece

Alternative repertoire

The following pieces are in the books listed.

11.	ANDERSSON	I Know Him so Well	The Complete Keyboard Player: Greatest Hits	Wise AM952677
12.	HAWKINS/ JOHNSON/ DASH/FEYNE	Tuxedo Junction	The Complete Keyboard Player: Jazz & Blues	Wise AM65970
13.	JOBIM/ MENDOCA	Desafinado	Latin-Festival	Schott ED9909
14.	MIER	Fickle Fourths	Jazz, Rags and Blues book 3	Alfred 16871
15.	MIER	What a Glorious Day!	Jazz, Rags and Blues book 3	Alfred 16871
16.	STANLEY <i>arr.</i> BAKER	The Bluebell Polka	The Complete Keyboard Player: Favourite Songs of Scotland	Wise AM965701

Own composition

Candidates may perform an own composition instead of one listed piece. More information can be found on page 18.



Duration:
2-3 minutes

Own compositions must be comparable in technical and musical demand to the pieces listed for this grade. Suitable features include:

- Tempo changes
- Use of a variety of different articulations
- Use of stop/start rhythm
- Use of keys stipulated for technical work at this grade

TECHNICAL WORK

Candidates prepare section **1.** and *either* section **2.** or section **3.** (see pages 19–20).

All requirements are in Trinity's *Electronic Keyboard Pieces & Technical Work 2019–2022: Grade 4.*

1. KEYBOARD EXERCISE (music may be used)

Candidates should play one of the following scales in the RH, accompanied by chords I, IV, V⁷ and VI in the LH, as illustrated in *Electronic Keyboard Pieces & Technical Work 2019–2022: Grade 4.*

▮ A♭ major, E major or C harmonic minor (candidate choice)

Either

2. SCALES & CHORD KNOWLEDGE (from memory) – Examiners select from the following:

▮ A♭ and E majors	hands together	two octaves	legato, <i>mf</i>	min. ♩ = 100
▮ C minor (candidate choice of <i>either</i> harmonic or melodic or natural minor)				
▮ Lydian scale on A♭				
▮ Mixolydian scale on E				
▮ Chromatic scale in similar motion starting on A♭ and E				
▮ A♭ major pentatonic	hands separately, straight or swung (candidate choice)			
▮ C minor pentatonic				
▮ Blues scale on E	RH only, straight or swung (candidate choice)			
▮ Chords in root position: A♭ ⁹ , E ⁹ , E♭ ⁹ , B ⁹	RH only or LH only (candidate choice)			
▮ Chords in root position, first, second and third inversions: E♭ ⁷ , B ⁷				
▮ Chord progression of I-VI-IV-V ⁷ -I in the following keys: A♭ major, E major, C minor				

Or

3. EXERCISES (music may be used) – Candidates prepare all three exercises.

Candidates choose one exercise to play first. Examiners then select one of the remaining two exercises to be performed.

1. Marimba Baby

keyboard functions exercise

2. Tango Turn

scalic exercise

3. Happy Smiles

pianistic exercise

SUPPORTING TESTS

Candidates choose two of the following:

- Sight reading
- Aural
- Improvisation
- Musical knowledge

Sight reading

After 30 seconds' preparation time, candidates perform a previously unseen musical extract at a level approximately two grades lower than the exam being taken. See page 22 for sight reading parameters.

Aural

Candidates answer questions based on a single musical example played on the piano by the examiner. See page 24 for more information.

The aural test requirements for Grade 4 are below.

Improvisation

Candidates perform an improvisation based on a stimulus chosen from the following three options:

- Stylistic
- Motivic
- Harmonic

See pages 24-31 for the requirements and parameters.

Musical knowledge

Candidates answer questions assessing their understanding of the pieces performed, as well as their knowledge of notation and the electronic keyboard. Questions are based on candidates' chosen pieces. See pages 32-33 for example questions and responses.

Aural questions

Parameters	Task	Requirement
Harmonised 4 bars Major or minor key $\frac{4}{4}$ or $\frac{6}{8}$	Listen to the piece twice	Clap the pulse on the second playing, stressing the strong beat
	Listen to the piece twice	i) Identify the tonality as major or minor ii) Identify the final cadence as perfect or imperfect
	Listen to the first two notes of the melody once	Identify the interval as minor or major second, minor or major third, perfect fourth or fifth, minor or major sixth
	Study a copy of the melody (provided in treble, alto or bass clef as appropriate), and listen to it once as written and once with a change of rhythm and a change of pitch	i) Identify the bar in which the change of rhythm occurred ii) Identify the bar in which the change of pitch occurred