

RSL Trumpet Graded Certificates – Technical Exercises Requirements

For each grade, all exercises must be performed as indicated below, in the order shown, as set out in the relevant Grade Book.

Group A and B items should be performed to a click, commencing after a 4-click count-in. Group C should be performed without a click.

Grade 1

Group A: Scales

Tempo: ♩ = 50

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed straight, using two articulations: (i) tongued and (ii) slurred (8 scales in all)

C major, 1 octave

C major pentatonic, 1 octave

A natural minor, 1 octave

A minor pentatonic, 1 octave

Group B: Arpeggios

Tempo: ♩ = 50

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed straight, using two articulations: (i) tongued and (ii) slurred (4 arpeggios in all)

C major, 1 octave

D minor, 1 octave

Group C: Technical Studies

All three to be played, as notated in the Grade Book:

Study 1: Dynamics and articulation

Study 2: Long phrases

Study 3: Stylistic articulation

Grade 2

Group A: Scales

Tempo: ♩ = 55

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed straight, using two articulations: (i) tongued and (ii) slurred (12 scales in all)

D major, 1 octave
D major pentatonic, 1 octave
Bb major, 1 octave
D natural minor, 1 octave
D minor pentatonic, 1 octave
B natural minor *or* B harmonic minor, 1 octave

Group B: Arpeggios

Tempo: ♩ = 55

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed straight, using two articulations: (i) tongued and (ii) slurred (8 arpeggios in all)

D major, 1 octave
D minor, 1 octave
Bb major, 1 octave
B minor, 1 octave

Group C: Technical Studies

All three to be played, as notated in the Grade Book:

Study 1: Dynamics and articulation

Study 2: Syncopation and 3/4 time

Study 3: Dynamics and 2/4 time

Grade 3

Group A: Scales

Tempo: ♩ = 60

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed straight, using two articulations: (i) tongued and (ii) slurred (14 scales in all)

A major, 1 octave
Eb major, 1 octave
Eb major pentatonic, 1 octave
C natural minor, 1 octave
C minor pentatonic, 1 octave
E natural minor *or* E harmonic minor *or* E melodic minor, 1 octave
C chromatic, 1 octave

Group B: Arpeggios

Tempo: ♩ = 60

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed straight, using two articulations: (i) tongued and (ii) slurred (8 arpeggios in all)

A major, 1 octave
Eb major, 1 octave
C minor, 1 octave
E minor, 1 octave

Group C: Technical Studies

All three to be played, as notated in the Grade Book:

Study 1: Natural minor, harmonic minor scale and 6/8 time

Study 2: Syncopation and 12/8 time

Study 3: Phrasing, passing notes and 9/8 time

Grade 4

Group A: Scales

Tempo: ♩ = 70

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed using two articulations: (i) tongued and (ii) slurred (18 scales in all)

A mixture of straight and swung rhythms should be used, roughly equally across all items

F major, 1 octave
E major, 1 octave
E major pentatonic, 1 octave
C# natural minor, 1 octave
C# minor pentatonic, 1 octave
F natural minor *or* F harmonic minor *or* F melodic minor, 1 octave
E chromatic, 1 octave
C blues, 1 octave
F mixolydian, 1 octave

Group B: Arpeggios

Tempo: ♩ = 70

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed using two articulations: (i) tongued and (ii) slurred (8 arpeggios in all)

A mixture of straight and swung rhythms should be used, roughly equally across all items

F major, 1 octave
E major, 1 octave
C# minor, 1 octave
F minor, 1 octave

Group C: Technical Studies

All three to be played, as notated in the Grade Book:

Study 1: Cut time, articulation and dynamics

Study 2: Swung 8ths and minor blues

Study 3: Waltz, intervallic jumps and dynamic contrast

Grade 5

Group A: Scales

Tempo: ♩ = 80

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed using two articulations: (i) tongued and (ii) slurred (16 scales in all)

A mixture of straight and swung rhythms should be used, roughly equally across all items

G major, 2 octaves

G major pentatonic, 2 octaves

B major, over a twelfth

G natural minor *or* G harmonic minor *or* G melodic minor, 2 octaves

G dorian, 1 octave

F dorian, 1 octave

E_b chromatic, 1 octave

G blues, 2 octaves

Group B: Arpeggios

Tempo: ♩ = 80

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed using two articulations: (i) tongued and (ii) slurred (8 arpeggios in all)

A mixture of straight and swung rhythms should be used, roughly equally across all items

G major, 2 octaves

B major, over a twelfth

G minor, 2 octaves

C dominant 7th, 1 octave

Group C: Technical Studies

All three to be played, as notated in the Grade Book:

Study 1: Syncopation, stabs and unison-style lines

Study 2: Jazz waltz, swung 8ths and use of mute

Study 3: Falls, articulation and dynamic contrast

Grade 6

Group A: Scales

Tempo: ♩ = 100

Ascending and descending

Each item should be performed twice, using contrasting articulation and rhythms (28 scales in all)

A mixture of three articulations should be used, roughly equally across all items: (i) tongued, (ii) slurred tongued and (iii) slurred

A mixture of straight and swung rhythms should be used, roughly equally across all items

Ab major, 2 octaves

A major, 2 octaves

Ab major pentatonic, 2 octaves

A major pentatonic, 2 octaves

Eb natural minor, over a twelfth

F# natural minor, over a twelfth

Eb minor pentatonic, over a twelfth

F# minor pentatonic, over a twelfth

D dorian, 1 octave

E dorian, 1 octave

D mixolydian, 1 octave

E mixolydian, 1 octave

D lydian, 1 octave

E lydian, 1 octave

Group B: Arpeggios

Tempo: ♩ = 100

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed using three articulations: (i) tongued, (ii) slurred tongued and (iii) slurred (15 arpeggios in all)

A mixture of straight and swung rhythms should be used, roughly equally across all items

Ab major, 2 octaves

A major, 2 octaves

F# minor, 2 octaves

Eb minor, over a twelfth

Bb diminished 7th, 2 octaves

Group C: Technical Studies

All three to be played, as notated in the Grade Book:

Study 1: Fast-tempo swing and dorian mode

Study 2: Plunger mute control

Study 3: Odd time signatures and mixed rhythmic groupings

Grade 7

Group A: Scales

Tempo: ♩ = 115

Ascending and descending

Each item should be performed twice, using contrasting articulation and rhythms (36 scales in all)

A mixture of three articulations should be used, roughly equally across all items: (i) tongued, (ii) slurred tongued and (iii) slurred

A mixture of straight and swung rhythms should be used, roughly equally across all items

Bb major, 2 octaves

Bb major pentatonic, 2 octaves

B natural minor, 2 octaves

B minor pentatonic, 2 octaves

G# natural minor, 2 octaves

G# minor pentatonic, 2 octaves

Bb bebop dominant, 2 octaves

B bebop dominant, 2 octaves

A dorian, 2 octaves

Bb dorian, 2 octaves

A mixolydian, 2 octaves

Bb mixolydian, 2 octaves

A phrygian, 2 octaves

Bb phrygian, 2 octaves

A lydian, 2 octaves

Bb lydian, 2 octaves

Bb whole tone, 2 octaves

B whole tone, 2 octaves

Group B: Arpeggios

Tempo: ♩ = 115

Ascending and descending

Each to be performed using three articulations: (i) tongued, (ii) slurred tongued and (iii) slurred (12 arpeggios in all)

A mixture of straight and swung rhythms should be used, roughly equally across all items

Bb major, 2 octaves

B minor, 2 octaves

G# minor, 2 octaves

B diminished 7th, 2 octaves

Group C: Technical Studies

All three to be played, as notated in the Grade Book:

Study 1: Double tonguing and extended playing techniques

Study 2: Extended techniques and dexterity

Study 3: Mixed articulation and broken triads

Grade 8

Group A: Scales

Tempo: ♩ = 120

Ascending and descending

Each item should be performed twice, using contrasting articulation and rhythms (42 scales in all)

A mixture of three articulations should be used, roughly equally across all items: (i) tongued, (ii) slurred tongued and (iii) slurred

A mixture of straight and swung rhythms should be used, roughly equally across all items

Db major, 2 octaves

Db major pentatonic, 2 octaves

F# major, 2 octaves

F# major pentatonic, 2 octaves

Bb natural minor, 2 octaves

Bb minor pentatonic, 2 octaves

C# natural minor, 2 octaves

C# minor pentatonic, 2 octaves

B dorian, 2 octaves

C dorian, 2 octaves

B phrygian, 2 octaves

C phrygian, 2 octaves

B lydian, 2 octaves

C lydian, 2 octaves

B mixolydian, 2 octaves

C mixolydian, 2 octaves

B locrian, 2 octaves

C locrian, 2 octaves

C bebop dominant, 2 octaves

C whole tone, 2 octaves

C phrygian dominant, 2 octaves

Group B: Arpeggios

Tempo: ♩ = 120

Ascending and descending

Each item should be performed twice, using contrasting articulation and rhythms (42 scales in all)

Each to be performed using three articulations: (i) tongued, (ii) slurred tongued and (iii) slurred (15 arpeggios in all)

A mixture of straight and swung rhythms should be used, roughly equally across all items

Db major, 2 octaves
F# major, 2 octaves
Bb minor, 2 octaves
C# minor, 2 octaves
C diminished 7th, 2 octaves

Group C: Technical Studies

Any two of the following to be played, as notated in the Grade Book:

Study 1: Double and triple tonguing

Study 2: Semiquaver syncopation, slurred and modulation

Study 3: Time signature changes and range