**NEW Piano Syllabus**

**NOTES and**

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**NOTES:**

***OLD AND NEW SYLLABUSES***

1) There are now TWO syllabuses:

* OLD (2018 – Purple Manual of Syllabuses) and
* NEW (2019 – Black Manual of Syllabuses)

2) The two syllabuses will run concurrently for TWO years – 2019 and 2020. *This means that you may use the OLD ore the NEW syllabus during 2019 and 2020.*

3) Please mark OLD or NEW when entering candidates for an examination

4) There can be NO MIXING of OLD and NEW syllabuses.

***NEW TECHNICAL WORK BOOK***

1) There is a NEW technical work book which must be used with the the NEW syllabus.

2) This NEW technical work book is not necessary when using the OLD syllabus. The technical work list for the OLD syllabus is in the 2018 Manual, of Syllabuses.

3) There is NO MIXING OF OLD and NEW technical work permitted.

***From 2021 Onwards – ONLY the NEW Piano Syllabus will be examined***

**FAQs:**

***Series Books and Manual Lists***

***1) Which books and manual lists can we use with the OLD Syllabus?***

For the **OLD Syllabus,** the following books and manual lists can be used:

* Series 15, 16 and 17 Grade books
* Manual List in the 2018 (PURPLE) syllabus

***2) Which books and manual lists can we use with the NEW Syllabus?***

For the **NEW Syllabus,** the following books and manual lists can be used:

* Series 17 and 18 Grade books
* Manual List in the 2019 (BLACK) syllabus

***3) Can I mix the OLD and NEW Syllabus Series books and Manual Lists?***

*No – mixing of the OLD and NEW syllabuses is not permitted*

***Technical Work and Scales***

***4) I can’t find the list of scales required for each grade in the new 2019 Manual of syllabuses – where is the list?***

*The scales, arpeggios and chord progressions are only available in the NEW Technical Work book.*

***5) Can I use the NEW 2018 Technical Work book with the OLD syllabus?***

*No – the NEW 2018 Technical Work book can ONLY be used with the NEW syllabus.*

*Use the list of Technical Work requirements in the OLD syllabus (PURPLE),*

***6) I notice there are EXERCISES in every grade now. Do my students have to prepare all of the exercises?***

Yes – the Technical Work book states that “All technical exercises music be prepared for examination”.

***7) Are candidates REQUIRED to present the Technical work from memory in the new Syllabus?***

The **SCALES/ARPEGGIOS/CHORDS MUST be played from memory** in the examination.

The **EXERCISES** **can be read** from the music in the Technical work book in the examination.

***8) If my student has memorised their EXERCISES, are they permitted to play their EXERCISES in the Technical Work book from memory?***

*Yes – they can, and in this case, they will not need to bring in their Technical Work book.*

*But – they may want to bring it in, just in case ☺*

***9) Do I have to buy a NEW Technical Work book for my students to bring into the examination?***

*The students will need an AMEB 2018 Technical Work book to play their Exercises from in the examination.*

***Fingerings***

***10) Are candidates required to use the fingerings given for the Exercises and Technical Work?***

*EXERCISES: The Technical Work Book states that the written fingerings for technical exercises MUST be observed.*

*SCALES/CHORD PROGRESSIONS/ARPEGGIOS: The Technical Work Book states that “candidates may alter the written fingerings for scales, chord progressions, and arpeggios except where indicated (Grade 7 – Chromatic Scale Ex 7.11), provided a logical and systematic approach is adopted.*

***Extra Lists***

***10) Which pieces can be used as Extra List pieces?***

The syllabus states that:

“The Extra List should have an educational value similar to that already prescribed in the syllabus. For example, candidates might wish to present another work form the syllabus, the current grade book, or earlier editions of grade books. The candidate may present a work of educational value similar to those listed in the syllabus from a source other than those listed above.” (p. xii, 2019 Manual of Syllabuses, AMEB).

Any piece which satisfies the above criteria **CAN be used as an Extra List.**

So – in 2019, pieces from the NEW Series 18 books, or Manual Lists CAN be used as an Extra List if a candidate is presenting for an OLD syllabus examination.

Also, if a candidate is presenting for the NEW Syllabus in 2019, they can use an Extra List piece from the OLD Syllabus lists.

***11) How many Extra Lists are required in examinations – has this requirement changed in 2019?***

Two Extra Lists are required form Grades 2 to 7.

No Extra List required for Grade 8 and Certificates

***Piano for Leisure***

***11) What about Piano for Leisure – is there any change to this syllabus?***

*No – there is no change to the Piano for Leisure syllabus. Everything – technical work, pieces, books, manual lists and choice of aural or sight reading - remains the same as in previous years.*

***Comprehensive Examination***

***12) I notice that the Syllabus uses the title Piano (Comprehensive) in the listing for the NEW Syllabus. What does COMPREHENSIVE mean?***

*The Comprehensive Syllabus is what we know as the “Standard”, or “Traditional” or “Classical” Syllabus. This syllabus contains the following:*

***Section One:*** *Technical work – including Exercises (NEW)*

***Section Two:*** *Studies and Pieces and Extra Lists (Grades 2-7)*

***Section Three:*** *Aural, Sight Reading and General Knowledge*

*This is the SAME set-up for examinations which we have ALWAYS had in the past.*

***The Comprehensive examination has TWO options from Grades 5 – 8.***

***Solo and Collaborative Options***

* ***Solo – A Solo examination is the SAME solo piano examination which the AMEB has offered in the past.***
* *A Solo examination comprises the following:*
* *Section One: Technical work – including Exercises (NEW)*
* *Section Two: Studies and Pieces and Extra Lists*
* *Section Three: Aural and Sight Reading and General Knowledge*
* ***Collaborative – A candidate is now able to present for a Collaborative examination as an alternative to a Solo examination.*** *This examination is designed for candidates who have an interest in developing their accompanying skills and to work in “collaboration’ with another musician.*
* *A Collaborative examination comprises the following:*
* *Section One: Technical work – including Exercises (NEW)*
* *Section Two: Studies and Pieces and Extra Lists (Please see Tables 3 and 4 regarding options for Collaborative examinations)*
* *Section Three: Aural and Sight Reading and General Knowledge*

***In Grades 5 and 6: Candidates can choose a Collaborative work in EITHER List C or LIST D. See options in Table 1.***

***Table 1:***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***GRADES 5 and 6*** | |  | ***GRADES 5 and 6*** | |
| *OPTION 1* | | *OPTION 2* | |
| *List A* | *Solo piece* | *List A* | *Solo piece* |
| *List B* | *Solo piece* | *List B* | *Solo piece* |
| ***List C*** | ***Collaborative piece*** | *List C* | *Solo piece* |
| *List D* | *Solo piece* | ***List D*** | ***Collaborative piece*** |
| *TWO EXTRA LISTS*  *Required in Grades 5 and 6* | | *TWO EXTRA LISTS*  *Required in Grades 5 and 6* | |

***In Grades 7 and 8: Candidates MUST choose a Collaborative work in List B AND, they choose a Collaborative piece in EITHER List C or List D.***

***Candidates who select the Collaborative option in Grades 7 and 8 will play TWO Collaborative pieces in the examination.***

***Table 2:***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***GRADES 7 and 8*** | |  | ***GRADES 7 and 8*** | |
| ***OPTION 1*** | | ***OPTION 2*** | |
| *List A* | *Solo piece* | *List A* | *Solo piece* |
| ***List B*** | ***Collaborative piece*** | ***List B*** | ***Collaborative piece*** |
| ***List C*** | ***Collaborative piece*** | *List C* | *Solo piece* |
| *List D* | *Solo piece* | ***List D*** | ***Collaborative piece*** |
| ***TWO EXTRA LISTS***  ***Required in Grade 7***  ***NO EXTRA LIST IN GRADE 8*** | | ***TWO EXTRA LISTS***  ***Required in Grade 7***  ***NO EXTRA LIST IN GRADE 8*** | |

***Repertoire Examinations***

***13) What is a Repertoire Examination?***

*A Repertoire examination is a new style of examination where candidates present ONLY Repertoire in their examination. There is NO Technical Work, Aural, Sight Reading and General Knowledge required in Repertoire examinations. Repertoire examinations are available for every AMEB Music Syllabus – except For Leisure, Band and CPM syllabuses.*

[*https://www.ameb.edu.au/news/repertoire-exams/*](https://www.ameb.edu.au/news/repertoire-exams/)

***14) How many pieces does a candidate need to present in a Repertoire Examination?***

Level 1 (Grades Preliminary to 4): 4 pieces

Level 2 (Grades 5 to 8): 5 pieces

***15) Which pieces can candidates choose for their Repertoire Examination?***

For Level 1 candidates are required to prepare one piece from each of Lists A, B and C, plus one Own Choice work of equivalent standard.

For Level 2 candidates three of the five pieces are to be drawn from the lists. Either, one each from Lists A, B and C, one each from Lists B, C and D, one each from Lists A, C and D, or one each from Lists A, B and D. The other two works are Own Choice works of equivalent standard.

Own Choice works at Level 1 or 2 can include any work listed on the full syllabus for that grade. They can also include any work not listed on the syllabus, but which is of a similar length and educational value to the other pieces featured on the syllabus lists. It is the responsibility of the candidate and their teacher to ensure that the Own Choice work chosen is appropriate for the grade.

Please note AMEB is unable to provide prior approval for Own Choice works.

Please check the [*2019 Manual of Syllabuses*](https://www.ameb.edu.au/shop/syllabuses-study-resources/manual-of-syllabuses-2074.html) for exact requirements for Level 1 Repertoire examinations for your particular instrument as some requirements do vary.

***Digital Recordings***

***16) There are no CDs included with the new Handbooks for the Series 18 books? Are recordings of the pieces available?***

*Yes – Digital Downloads are available from the AMEB Online Shop.*

[*https://www.ameb.edu.au/shop/keyboard-and-piano/piano/digital-recordings-series-18.html*](https://www.ameb.edu.au/shop/keyboard-and-piano/piano/digital-recordings-series-18.html)