

A vibrant collage of musical instruments and symbols. At the top, a golden trumpet is prominent. Below it, a blue guitar, a yellow mask, and a blue treble clef are visible. In the center, a large orange horn is the focal point. To the right, a black and white piano keyboard is partially shown. The background is a mix of blue, yellow, and black geometric shapes and patterns.

FIRST-STEPS

An accessible introduction to exams for beginners

VIOLA

Australian Music  *Examinations Board*

FURTHER INFORMATION

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VIOLA FIRST STEPS TESTS

Viola First Steps offered by AMEB WA are intended as introductory examination experiences for beginner viola students. They are especially designed as a means of getting them accustomed to external examinations. The tests give preparatory exam experiences before the normal graded examinations offered through the AMEB Manual of Syllabuses.

Candidates may choose either test that suits their level of preparation: **Viola First Steps – Test 1** or **Viola First Steps – Test 2**. Alternatively, they may do them both in sequence over a time frame that matches their rate of learning.

A written report will be provided. It will identify strengths as well as areas for improvement in Technical Work, Pieces and Aural Tests, and include a general comment about progress.

No pass or fail grade will be awarded.

A certificate will be issued to all participants. Please contact the office for enrolment information.

All Tests may be photocopied and/or enlarged at the discretion of the teacher. Test content may be presented with music or from memory.

VIOLA FIRST STEPS - TEST 1



12 minutes



\$70

Instrument requirement

An instrument of appropriate size for the candidate.

Instructions: Prepare all of the following in Sections 1, 2 and 3.

Section 1 – Technical Work

Test 1 – Technical Work

Exercise 1: Smoothly and in the upper half (UH) of the bow.

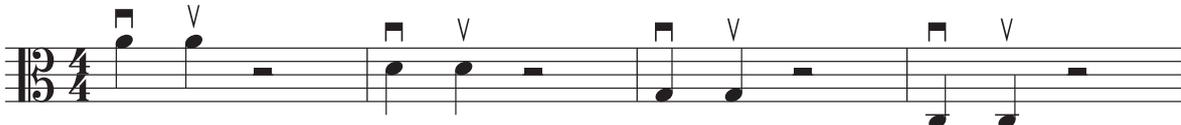


Exercise 2: Bow division.

WB UH WB LH



Exercise 3: Open strings legato, upper half. In the rests, prepare your bow arm for the next string level.



Section 2 - Pieces

Play two short pieces of the candidate's choosing. Pieces may be accompanied by piano or another instrument, at the discretion of the candidate.

- ⇒ List A: Any piece in Simple Triple time
- ⇒ List B: Any piece in Simple Duple or Simple Quadruple time

Section 3 - Aural Tests and General Knowledge

Aural

Time and rhythm

- a. Clap the note values of a simple two bar rhythmic passage played by the examiner.

Pitch

- a. The examiner will play a phrase of up to six one-beat notes, then repeat it, waiting on each note for the candidate to sing or hum it.
- b. The examiner will play two notes, not less than a fifth apart. The candidate will state which is the higher or lower of the two notes.

General Knowledge

Simple questions will be asked regarding the value of notes and rests, the meaning of sharp and flat signs, bowing signs (up and down bow) and the names of parts of the viola and bow.

VIOLA FIRST STEPS - TEST 2



15 minutes



\$70

Instrument requirement

An instrument of appropriate size for the candidate.

Section 1 – Technical Work – to be prepared on all possible strings

Exercise 1: With long bows.

$\text{♩} = 60-80$