

# Grade 3

## Essential Skills Examples

Here are some additional examples for you to work through as you prepare for your Grade 3 Exam. Remember, you'll get the actual examples 10 days before your exam, so you should have time to try them out with your teacher. Then you choose just ONE skill to present at your exam.... What's your favourite skill!?

**Quick Study** – this will be a grand stave, 2 hands, 8 bar piece in A, D or E minor, in simple quadruple or simple triple time. Make sure you check the key signature and look through the whole line example you begin to play. If you'd like to do more sight reading, the examples here are a similar level to the pieces in the UME 'Junior Plus' level. So go to the Junior Plus section of the syllabus, click on 'PDFs of pieces' and try playing through those as well!

Musical notation example 1: Grand staff, 3/4 time, A minor key signature. Treble clef starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Bass clef starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The piece consists of 8 bars with various dynamics and articulations.

Musical notation example 2: Grand staff, common time (C), D minor key signature. Treble clef starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Bass clef starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The piece consists of 8 bars with various dynamics and articulations, including a ritardando (*rit...*) marking.

Musical notation example 3: Grand staff, 3/4 time, D major key signature. Treble clef starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Bass clef starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The piece consists of 8 bars with various dynamics and articulations.

**Improvisation** – this will be a simple chord progression using only chords I, IV and V (or you can use V7). You can choose to play these in your favourite key!

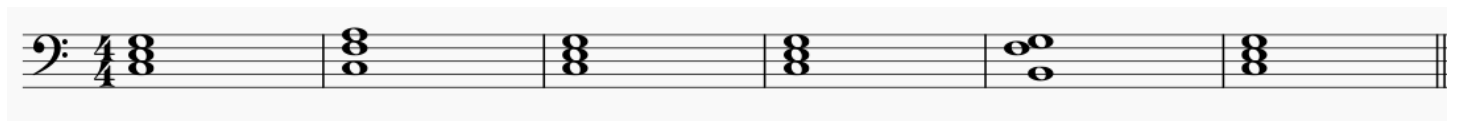
There will be 6 chords and they may be presented in any order.

Your job is to play the chords as they are written (block chords) and then to play them again and ‘improvise’ a simple RH melody over the chords.

Here’s an example in C major - the chord progression might look like this:

I IV I I V7 I

So first you play it like this with your LH:



And then play it again with a melody in your RH:



Pick a key, try these progressions and see if you can come up with some cool ‘improvised’ melodies over the chords!

I I IV I V7 I  
V7 I IV I V7 I  
IV V7 I I V7 I  
I I V7 I IV I

