

# Preliminary

## Essential Skills Examples

Here are some additional examples for you to work through as you prepare for your Preliminary 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 staff, 2 hands, 4 bar piece in C, G or F major, in simple quadruple time. Make sure you check the key signature and look through the whole line before 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' level. So go to the Junior section of the syllabus, click on 'PDFs of pieces' and try playing through those as well!



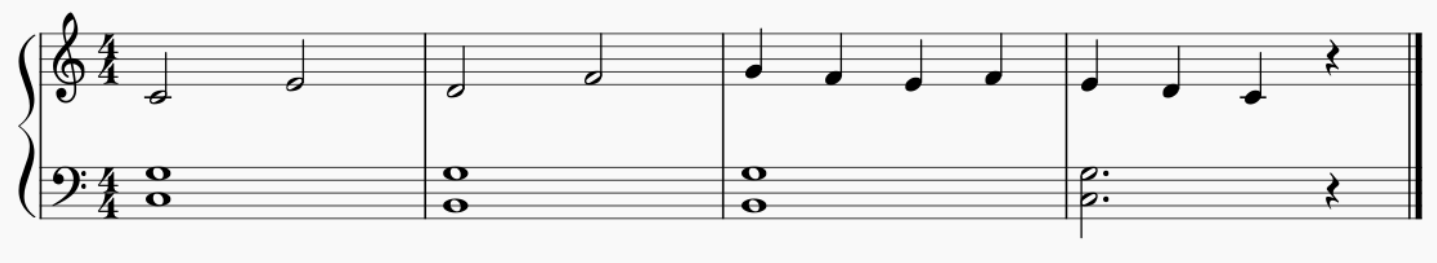
Musical notation example 1: Grand staff in C major, 4/4 time, 4 bars. The right hand plays a simple melody of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. The left hand plays a simple accompaniment of half notes: C3, G2, C3, G2, C3, G2, C3, G2.



Musical notation example 2: Grand staff in G major (one sharp), 4/4 time, 4 bars. The right hand plays a simple melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The left hand plays a simple accompaniment of chords and notes: G2-B2-D2 (chord), G2-B2-D2 (chord), G2 (note), G2-B2-D2 (chord), G2-B2-D2 (chord).



Musical notation example 3: Grand staff in F major (one flat), 4/4 time, 4 bars. The right hand plays a simple melody of quarter notes: F4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F4. The left hand plays a simple accompaniment of chords and notes: F2-A2-C2 (chord), F2-A2-C2 (chord), F2 (note), F2-A2-C2 (chord), F2-A2-C2 (chord).



Musical notation example 4: Grand staff in C major, 4/4 time, 4 bars. The right hand plays a simple melody of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. The left hand plays a simple accompaniment of half notes: C3, G2, C3, G2, C3, G2, C3, G2.

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

There will be 4 chords and they might be presented in any order.

Your job is to play the chords as they are written (block chords) and then to play them again with a two LH accompaniment patterns – one in quadruple time and one in triple time.

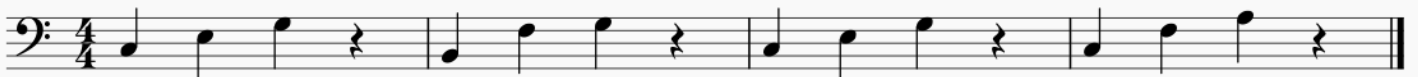
Here's an example in C major - the chord progression might look like this:

**I V7 I IV**

So first you play it like this:



And then play it again with a pattern of your choice in quadruple time eg:



And then play it again with a pattern of your choice in triple time eg:



Here's another example, this time in G major – the chord progression this time is:

**I IV V7 I**

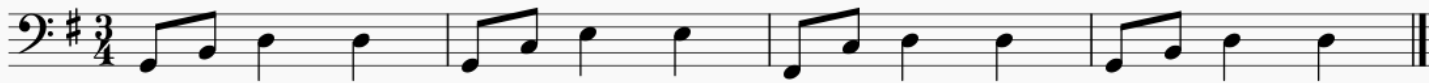
So first you'll play:



And then something like this:



Followed by something like this:



You could also play this an octave higher if you like the way it sounds.

Pick a key, try these progressions and see if you can come up with some cool 'improvised' patterns!

IV I V7 I

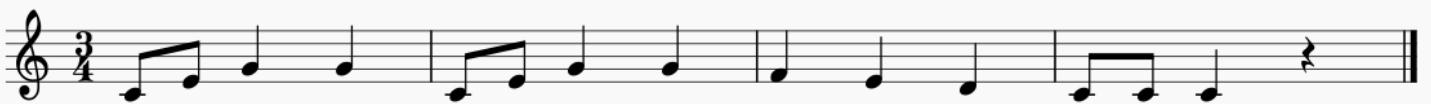
V7 I IV I

IV V7 I I

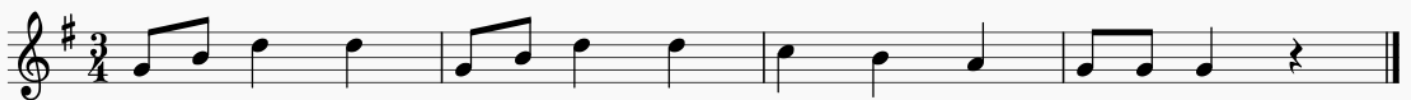
I I IV V7

**Transposition** – This will be a simple 4 bar melody in C major to play with your right hand. You need to play it as written and then transpose it into 2 other major keys – of your choice!

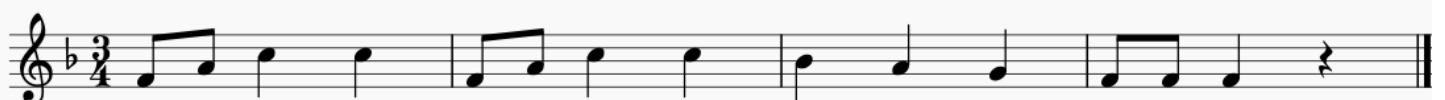
Here's an example. First play this as written:



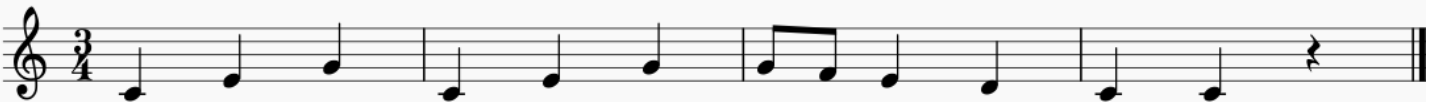
Then play it in a different key (how about G major?)



And then in another key (maybe F major this time!)



Here are a few examples for you to try. You can choose any keys so start experimenting! Try starting on a different note, check which black notes you might need and see if you can work out some interesting keys. Start by playing the melody as written in C major.



Transposition is a great skill! It's fun to find simple pieces from anywhere and try them out in different keys! Maybe you can have a try of some of your performance pieces in other keys or make up your own little melody and then transpose it!? Have fun.