



*Victoria College Examinations*  
*vcmexams.com*

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# PLECTRUM GUITAR



**At all grades as an alternative piece may be chosen from**

## **“The Guitarist’s Irish Collection”**

A collection of 14 well loved Irish melodies (and a Johnny Cash Song that is often wrongly said to be traditional!) is a graded set of pieces for all guitarists from absolute beginners, who have just bought their first instruments, to accomplished players with several years experience.

Each piece has been carefully arranged so that it can be played in either Plectrum or Finger Style. I hope that this will encourage the exploration of the different techniques involved. Chords are also incorporated into the solo performances to help some Classical players overcome a tendency to avoid the enjoyable freedom that rhythm playing can afford.

Each piece is written in both Notation and Tablature and here again I hope that students will pick up knowledge and skills from whichever system they know least about! Also ensemble arrangements are easily produced from the scores which include chord symbols.

The book is available from Victoria College of Music at £9.95  
The pieces are set in both the Classical and Plectrum Syllabus.

### Contents

When Irish Eyes are Smiling (Grade A),  
Never Wed an Old Man (Grade A)  
Cockles and Mussels (Grade C)  
The Wild Rover (Grade C)  
Weile Weile (Grade 1)  
I Know Where I'm going (Grade 1)  
The Rose of Tralee (Grade 2)  
Whiskey in the Jar (Grade 2)  
Forty Shades of Green (Grade 3)  
I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen (Grade 3)  
Two Jigs . The Irish Washerwoman . Monaghan (Grade 4)  
Spinning Wheel (Grade 5)  
The Black Velvet Band (Grade 6)  
The Mountains of Mourne (Grade 7)  
Fantasia on The Londonderry Air (Danny Boy) (Grade 8)

**Colin R. Tribe**

**Other books published by Colin Tribe and available from Fatfish Music include:**

**Guitar Essentials Books 1, 2 and 3**

**Bass Essentials**

**The Bollywood Collection 1 & 2**

**Sound Ideas**

**KeyTabs for Christmas**

**Hindi Devotional Song Book**

**Mandolin Magic**

**Fatfish Music**

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# Plectrum Guitar Syllabus

Member of



## ABOUT THE VCM

Victoria College of Music and Drama, London Ltd. is an independent body providing examinations in Music, Speech, and Drama subjects. It has held examination sessions throughout the British Isles and certain overseas countries since it was founded in 1890. It no longer operates a full-time teaching institution. The VCM is a corporate member of the Incorporated Society of Musicians, the Worshipful Company of Musicians, the Music Education Council, the Association of Teachers of Singing, the European Piano Teachers Association, the European Recorder Teachers Association, the Society of Recorder Players, the European String Teachers Association the Society of Teachers of Speech & Drama, the National Association of Music Educators, the Association of British Choral Directors, the Schools Music Association of Great Britain and is an institutional member of the College of Teachers and abides by its code of practice.

Further details about Victoria College can be found on our website:

**[www. Vcmexams.com](http://www.Vcmexams.com)**

## PASS MARKS

Introductory Grades	65%
Grades 1 to 8	65%
with Merit	80%; with Distinction 90%
Merit is shown as %Honours+in Ireland	
Pre-diploma certificate	75% (85% with Honours)
Medal examinations	75%
Diplomas	75% (85% with Honours)

## WHAT THE EXAMINERS ARE LOOKING FOR

Examiners are looking for a combination of skill, knowledge and understanding. Questions are asked in a manner which assesses the candidate's depth of understanding, not merely the ability to repeat definitions. Ingenuity, variety, musicianship, and a sense of style are rewarded, as well as technical skill and musical accuracy.

## OWN COMPOSITIONS

Candidates for Grades 1 to 8 may perform their own compositions in lieu of Musicianship Tests. Further guidance is set out in *Crazy Composing* available from [www.vcmpublications.co.uk](http://www.vcmpublications.co.uk).

## REGULATIONS

All entries are accepted on the conditions laid down in *General Regulations and Information*, a copy of which is available free of charge. It is also on our website: [www.vcmexams.com](http://www.vcmexams.com)

## ENTRY FORMS

All *grades* and *medal* examinations can be entered on white entry forms with no more than ten candidates on a page. Please use the following code in the column headed %subject+and the appropriate letter(s) or numbers in the %grade no.+column.

Classical Guitar: GT

**Bass Guitar: BG**

**Plectrum Guitar: PG**

## **QUESTIONS**

Questions are based principally on the music performed; but in addition examiners are at liberty to ask questions on notes, rests, musical terms and signs, key and time-signatures, according to the Grade. Also specifically on minor keys; perfect, major, and minor intervals (Grade 3 upwards).

## **SIGHT READING**

Sight Reading tests are included from Preparatory level upwards. The relative standard will be that of approximately two grades below the grade being taken. Examiners will be at liberty to discuss the Sight Reading Test with candidates as part of the Questions.

## **PIECES**

Candidates are required to prepare the whole of the pieces they have selected from the lists, but the examiner may stop the candidate at any given point or ask for certain sections to be performed, or to omit repeats where appropriate.

## **SCALEWORK**

The examiner will request a representative sample of those specified for a particular examination. Candidates will not be expected to perform Scalework specified for earlier grades.

## **PHOTOCOPIES**

All VCM and LMP publications are copyright. Photocopying of LMP publications is not permissible and **candidates using unauthorised photocopies at examinations will be disqualified**. It is acceptable, however, to use a photocopy for the second copy when the syllabus requires one to be handed to the examiner, provided the original is also brought to the examination. It is also acceptable to use photocopies of parts of long pieces to avoid awkward page turns, again provided the original is also brought to the examination.

## **EXEMPTION FROM QUESTIONS AT PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS**

Candidates who have passed certain VCM Theoretical Examinations are entitled to claim full marks for questions at Practical Examinations as follows:

Grade 1 Theory exempts up to and including Preliminary Practical

Grade 1A Theory exempts up to and including Preparatory

Grade II Theory exempts up to and including Grade 3 Practical

Grade III Theory exempts up to and including Grade 5 Practical

Grade IV Theory exempts up to and including Grade 7 Practical

*In all such cases the theory result or certificate must be produced for the Examiner at the beginning of the practical examination.*

## **MEMORY**

Performing from memory is not compulsory at any level. However, it is encouraged and will be rewarded.

# **PLECTRUM GUITAR**

This syllabus is appropriate for either acoustic or electric guitars. Candidates in all Grades must tune their own instruments. The examiner should not be expected to do this.

Candidates should provide themselves with a footstool and music stand if required.

Accurate tuning of the instrument, volume, clarity and quality of tone, posture and hand positions will all be taken into account in the marking of pieces and studies, Scales and arpeggios.

Scales and arpeggios must be played from memory, at a pace appropriate to the technical demands of the Grade. In all Grades Scales and arpeggios should be played legato, and without undue accentuation and any practical, systematic left hand fingering will be accepted.

For the pieces any good practical fingering will be accepted and at least two of the pieces must be played with a plectrum.

Candidates will be given a short interval of up to half a minute in which to look through and, if they wish, try out any part of the Sight Reading. The sight reading will include both standard notation and a chord sequence with rhythms indicated.

# Introductory Examinations

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>PG</b>	<b>A</b>

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		<b>PG</b>	<b>C</b>

## **A -First Steps in Plectrum Guitar Playing**

### **Exercises (20 Marks)**

Candidates must perform the Study set out in the Exam Sheet for the grade.

### **Scalework (10 marks)**

Candidates must prepare the following Scales to be played ascending, from memory. The use of open strings is permitted at this grade.

C Major - 1 octave

A Natural Minor - 1 octave

Candidates will demonstrate the ability to play the following chords during the performance of the exam pieces.

E Major, A Major, G Major, A Minor, E7, B7, D7

### **Solo Pieces (60 marks)**

To play any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Tribe: Play Around

Grundy:Blues in E

### **Questions (10 marks)**

## **C- Preparatory Plectrum Guitar Playing**

### **Exercises (20 Marks)**

Candidates must perform the Study set out in the Exam Sheet for the grade.

### **Scalework (10 marks)**

Candidates must prepare the following Scales to be played ascending, from memory. The use of open strings is permitted at this grade.

G Major - 1 octave

E Harmonic Minor - 1 octave

### **Solo Pieces (50 marks)**

To play any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Tribe: Waltz Time

Tribe: A O Blues

### **Questions (10 marks)**

### **Sight Reading (10 marks)**

In addition to a simple unseen piece candidates will be required to play the following chords from chord diagrams  
Major - D A E Minor . Dmi, Dominant 7<sup>th</sup>  
Chords A7 B7 D7

**There are no Guitar examinations  
available at B- Preliminary or  
D- Advanced Preparatory level.**

# Dlectrum Guitar Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		PG	1

## Grade 1 in Dlectrum Guitar Playing

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play Tribe: Oplus One from the Exam Sheet for the Grade

Plus any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Grundy:Rock Solid

Grundy: Walkingthe Frets

Carcassi: Caprice

### Scalework (10 marks)

Candidates must prepare the following Scales and arpeggios to be played ascending and descending, from memory.

C and G Major

A and E Harmonic Minor

All one octave

### Questions (10 marks)

### Sight Reading (10 marks)

In addition to an unseen piece candidates will be required to play the following chords from chord diagrams

Major chords - A, C, D, E, G.

Minor chords - Am, Dm, Em.

Dominant 7th chords - A7, B7, D7, E7.

Major 7th chords - AMaj7, CMaj7, DMaj7

### Either Musicianship Tests (10 Marks)

Test 1: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 time. 2 bars in length, played twice by the examiner.

Test 2: To identify any note in the arpeggio C/E/G/C', Middle C being given

Test 3: To echo a five-note phrase played twice by the examiner.

### or Composition (10 Marks)

Perform an own composition of about 8 bars in the key of C major. It should be balanced as an opening 4-bar phrase which forms a question+and a 4-bar phrase that forms an answer+

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		PG	2

## Grade 2 in Dlectrum Guitar Playing

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play Malaguena from the Exam Sheet for the Grade

Plus any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

arr. Tribe:The Rose of Tralee

Grundy: Al Blues

Carulli: Etude

### Scalework (10 marks)

Candidates must prepare the following Scales and arpeggios to be played ascending and descending, from memory.

D and A major

D and G harmonic minor

All one octave

### Questions (10 marks)

### Sight Reading (10 marks)

In addition to an unseen piece candidates will be required to play the following chords from chord diagrams

Non-barre+chords - Am7, Bm, C7, Em7, FMaj7, G7, GMaj7.

Chords using half-barre - Dm7, F, F#m.

### Either Musicianship Tests (10 Marks)

Test 4: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 time. 2 bars in length, played twice by the examiner.

Test 5: To identify any note C to G, played from C

Test 6: To hum, play or play a group of 5 or 6 notes played twice by the examiner, and to complete the phrase by adding **one** note

### or Composition (10 Marks)

Perform an own composition of about 16 bars in the key of C, G or F major. It should be balanced as an opening 4-bar phrase which forms a question+, a 4-bar phrase that forms an answer+, a repeat of the opening 4-bar phrase, and a second answering+phrase



# Plectrum Guitar Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		PG	3

## Grade 3 in Plectrum Guitar Playing

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play Tribe: The Strangely-timed, Chromatic, 12-bar Blues in E from the Exam Sheet for the Grade

Plus any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Grundy: Grundy's Blues  
Tribe: The Eagle Guitar  
Grundy: Homage to Paganini  
Carcassi: Waltz

### Scalework (10 marks)

Candidates must prepare the following Scales and arpeggios to be played ascending and descending, from memory.

E and F major  
B and C harmonic minor  
All one octave

### Questions (10 marks)

#### Sight Reading (10 marks)

In addition to an unseen piece candidates will be required to play all minor and all major chords from chord diagrams.

#### Either Musicianship Tests (10 Marks)

Test 7: To clap a rhythm in 2/4 or 3/4 time, 2 bars, played twice by the examiner and identify the time as 2/4 or 3/4

Test 8: To identify any note(s) in the chords of C, G, or F, played from the root note.

Test 9: To hum, play or whistle a group of 5 or 6 notes played twice by the examiner, and then to complete the phrase by adding two or three notes.

#### or Composition (10 Marks)

Perform an own composition in simple binary form in the key of C, G, F, D or B flat major.

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		PG	4

## Grade 4 in Plectrum Guitar Playing

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play Tribe: A Celtic Cross from the Exam Sheet for the Grade

Plus any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Grundy: Aspects of Blue  
Kreutzer: Etude No. 1  
Vivaldi: Largo  
Tribe: The Quiet East  
Carcassi: Study in F

### Scalework (10 marks)

Candidates must prepare the following Scales and arpeggios to be played ascending and descending, from memory.

E and F major  
E and F harmonic minor  
Chromatic Scale on E, Dominant 7th in A  
All two octaves

### Questions (10 marks)

#### Sight Reading (10 marks)

In addition to an unseen piece candidates will be required to play all minor and all major chords from chord diagrams including All Minor 7ths, Dominant 7ths and Major 7ths.

#### Either Musicianship Tests (10 Marks)

Test 10: To clap a rhythm in 2/4, 3/4 or 4/4 time played twice by the examiner, to state the time and then to identify the melody as major or minor.

Test 11: To identify triads as major or minor and then to name the notes in them, the root being named by the examiner.

Test 12: To hum, play or whistle a group of notes- 2 bars - played by the examiner, and then to complete the melody by adding 4 or 5 notes

#### or Composition (10 Marks)

Perform an own composition in simple binary form in the key of D or B flat major, including a modulation to a related key.

# Plectrum Guitar Playing

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		PG	5

## Grade 5 in Plectrum Guitar Playing

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play Tribe: See It All the Way from the Exam Sheet for the Grade

Plus any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

- Carcassi: Allegro
- Grundy: Back to Bach
- Kreutzer: Etude No. 2
- Sor: Study in C Major
- Tribe: The Spaniards In

### Scalework (10 marks)

Candidates must prepare the following Scales and arpeggios to be played ascending and descending, from memory.

- B flat and E flat major
- A, E and D melodic minor
- Chromatic Scale on F, Dominant 7th in C and F
- All two octaves

### Questions (10 marks)

#### Sight Reading (10 marks)

In addition to an unseen piece candidates will be required to play the following chords from chord diagrams: All Major 6ths, Minor 6ths and Sus 4ths

#### Either Musicianship Tests (10 Marks)

Test 13: To clap a rhythm in 3/4, 4/4 or 6/8 time - 2 bars - played twice by the examiner, and to state the time, and then to say if the melody is in a major or minor key.

Test 14: To identify triads as major, minor, or diminished; and then to name the notes in them, the root note being named by the examiner.

Test 15: To hum, play or play a two bar phrase played twice by the examiner, and then to continue with an answering two bar phrase.

#### or Composition (10 Marks)

Perform an own composition in simple ternary form in a key of up to and including 3 sharps or 3 flats, including a modulation to a related key.

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		PG	6

## Grade 6 in Plectrum Guitar Playing

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play Tribe: A Minor Skirmish from the Exam Sheet for the Grade

Plus any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

- Carulli: Etude in F Major
- Kreutzer: Etude No. 3
- Grundy: Jazzology
- Carcassi: Study No.20 Opus 60

### Scalework (10 marks)

Candidates must prepare the following Scales and arpeggios to be played ascending and descending, from memory.

- A flat and B major
- B, F# and C melodic minor
- Chromatic Scale on A, Diminished 7th on E and F
- All two octaves

### Questions (10 marks)

#### Sight Reading (10 marks)

In addition to an unseen piece candidates will be required to play the following chords from chord diagrams: all Major 9ths, Minor 9ths, Dominant 9ths, Diminished 7ths and Augmented 5th chords

#### Either Musicianship Tests (10 Marks)

Test 16: To clap a rhythm in 4/4, 6/8, or 9/8 time - 2 or 3 bars, played twice by the examiner, to state the time and then to identify whether the phrase is in a major or minor key.

Test 17: To identify any type of triad, and then to name the notes in them, the root note having been named by the examiner.

Test 18: To hum, play or whistle 3 or 4 bars played twice by the examiner, and then to continue by adding an answering phrase.

Test 19: To identify a cadence as Perfect or Plagal

#### or Composition (10 Marks)

Perform an own composition in variation form to the theme of *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* or your own choice of theme. It should have balanced phrases and move to at least two related keys.

Show on entry form as

SURNAME	FORENAMES	SUBJECT	GRADE
		PG	7

## Grade 7 in Plectrum Guitar Playing

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play Tribe: Chasing That Dream from the Exam Sheet for the Grade

Plus any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Paganini: Perpetual Motion (Excerpt)

Bach: Prelude from the Cello Suite No.1

Carcassi: Study No. 15 Opus 60

### Scalework (10 marks)

Candidates must prepare the following Scales and arpeggios to be played ascending and descending, from memory.

D flat and F# major

All harmonic minor keys

Chromatic Scale on A flat, Diminished 7th on F#

Dominant 7th in E and B flat

All two octaves

### Questions (10 marks)

#### Sight Reading (10 marks)

In addition to an unseen piece candidates will be required to play all Major and Minor chords using non-root+or altered bass notes.

All Minor 7th and Dominant 7th chords using altered 5ths and/or altered 9ths from chord diagrams.

#### Either Musicianship Tests (10 Marks)

Test 20: To clap a rhythm in 3/4, 6/8, 9/8 or 5/4 time, for 3 or 4 bars, played twice by the examiner, to identify the time and then to identify whether the phrase is in a major or minor key.

Test 21: To hum, play or play a group of 3 or 4 bars, played twice by the examiner, and then to complete by adding an answering phrase of 3 or 4 bars.

Test 22: To identify triads, played in any position, and then to name the notes in them, the root note being given by the examiner.

Test 23: To identify a cadence as Perfect or Interrupted.

Test 24: To name and play or play the notes in any supertonic triad (major keys only), the Tonic chord having been played and named by the examiner.

#### or Composition (10 Marks)

Perform an own composition in Sonata form. It should have balanced phrases and move to at least two related keys.

## Grade 8 in Plectrum Guitar Playing

Candidates for Grade 8 must pass VCM Grade IV Theory of Music (or hold an exemption certificate) before the Grade 8 certificate is awarded.

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play Tribe: Easy Come, Easy Go! from the Exam Sheet for the Grade

Plus any two of the following Pieces from the Exam Sheet for the grade; or one of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Bach: Bourree from Violin Sonata in B minor

Bach: Sarabande from Violin Sonata

Carcassi: Study No. 22

### Scalework (10 marks)

Candidates must prepare the following Scales and arpeggios to be played ascending and descending, from memory.

All major and melodic minor keys

Chromatic Scale on B flat,

Augmented arpeggios on G and C

Dominant 7th in all keys

All two octaves

### Questions (10 marks)

#### Sight Reading (10 marks)

In addition to an unseen piece candidates will be required to play the all minor and all major chords from chord diagrams including Dominant 11th and Dominant 13th chords

#### Either Musicianship Tests (10 Marks)

Test 25: To clap a rhythm in 2/2, 6/8, 5/4, or 7/8 time - four bars played twice by the examiner, to identify the time-signature, and to say if the melody is in a major or minor key.

Test 26: To hum, play or play a 4-bar phrase played twice by the examiner, and then continue for 4 further bars with an answering phrase, not necessarily in sequence.

Test 27: To identify triads as major, minor, diminished or augmented, and to name the notes in them, the root note being given by the examiner.

Test 28: To identify a cadence as Perfect or Imperfect.

Test 29: To name the notes in a mediant triad in a major key, and the tonic chords having been played and named by the examiner.

#### or Composition (10 Marks)

Perform an own composition in Rondo form. It should have balanced phrases and move to at least two related keys.

## **Plectrum Guitar Playing**

### **Associate Diploma (AVCM) Syllabus I Performers Diploma**

*Candidates for AVCM must pass Victoria College of Music Grade V Theory of Music. See Theory syllabus for details. Candidates who can produce evidence of having passed GCSE in Music or equivalent may apply for exemption from the Theory requirement.*

#### **Solo Pieces (60 marks)**

To play all three of the following Pieces from Diploma Pieces for Plectrum Guitar published by London Music Press; or two of the pieces plus an *own choice* suitable for the grade:

Botsford: Black and White Rag

Tribe: Travelling Slowly, but Hoping to Arrive

Pujol: Homenaje a Tarrega

#### **Scalework (20 marks)**

Scales and Arpeggios of all major and minor keys (both forms),

Chromatic Scale on any note,

Augmented arpeggios on any note

Diminished 7<sup>th</sup> in all keys

All 2 Octaves

#### **Questions (10 marks)**

to answer questions on

i. the construction of intervals, Scales, arpeggios and chords;

ii. the resources of the instrument;

iii. the pieces presented at the examination;

iv. guitar repertoire in general

#### **Sight Reading (10 marks)**

### **Associate Diploma (AVCM) Syllabus II Recitalists Diploma**

As outlined under Syllabus I above, except that, instead of Scalework, an additional *own choice* solo is to be offered in addition.

### **Associate Diploma (AVCM(TD)) Syllabus III in Plectrum Guitar Teaching**

Candidates must submit with their entry ONE of the following:

(a) A Folio showing work and notes for a 10-week term of lessons for ONE of these categories:

1. The young beginner
2. The teenage beginner
3. The adult beginner

(b) A 25 minute DVD of themselves teaching any pupil at any level from Grade 1 to Grade 5. Approximately 15 minutes should show work on at least one repertoire or examination piece, and approximately 10 minutes should work on TWO other aspects of Teaching the instrument, such as Sight Reading, Aural Training, Scales/Arpeggios etc.

#### **PERFORMING SECTION (40 Marks)**

To play TWO pieces by DIFFERENT composers, from the AVCM Syllabus I list (one of which may be an *own choice*)

#### **TEACHING SECTION (50 Marks)**

The candidate is to present TWO contrasted pieces by DIFFERENT composers from the VCM Grade Examination lists for this instrument, as follows  
ONE piece from the Grade 1-3 lists;  
ONE piece from Grades 4-5.

The candidate must be able to demonstrate/discuss the teaching of these pieces to examination readiness, to explain the difficulties likely to be encountered by the pupil, and to suggest ways of overcoming these problems.

The examiner may request extracts or complete performances of the chosen pieces, and the candidate's playing of them WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT when arriving at the mark for this section.

The candidate must be able to demonstrate/discuss the teaching of Scalework as set for up to Grade 5.

The examiner may also play extracts from the chosen pieces, with errors for the candidate to identify and correct, and questions may also be asked on the teaching of the pieces presented in the PERFORMING SECTION, on teaching matters generally, points arising from the Folio/DVD, and such aspects of an *unseen* piece, as tempo, phrasing, expression marks, fingering etc.

#### **SIGHT READING (10 Marks)**

## Licentiate Diploma (LVCM) Syllabus I Performers Diploma

Candidates for LVCM must be Associates of the College, though not necessarily in the same subject and must pass Victoria College of Music Grade VI Theory of Music. See Theory syllabus for details. Candidates who can produce evidence of having passed 'A' Level in Music or equivalent may apply for exemption from the Theory requirement.

### Solo Pieces (60 marks)

To play all three of the following Pieces from Licentiate Pieces for Plectrum Guitar published by London Music Press; or two of the pieces plus an own choice+suitable for the grade:

Paganini: Excerpts from Capricio No.24

Mozart: Rondo Alla-Turca

Tribe: The Shoddy Rag

### Scalework (20 marks)

Scales and Arpeggios of all major and minor keys (both forms),

Chromatic Scale on any note,

Whole tone scale on E and F

Diminished 7<sup>th</sup> in all keys

Dominant 7<sup>th</sup> in all keys

All 2 Octaves

### Questions (10 marks)

to answer questions on

- i. the construction of intervals, Scales, arpeggios and chords;
- ii. the resources of the instrument;
- iii. the pieces presented at the examination;
- iv. guitar repertoire in general

### Sight Reading (10 marks)

## Licentiate Diploma (AVCM) Syllabus II Recitalists Diploma

As outlined under Syllabus I above, except that, instead of Scalework, an additional own choice solo is to be offered in addition.

## Licentiate Diploma (LVCM(TD)) Syllabus III in Plectrum Guitar Teaching

Candidates must submit with their entry a Dissertation or DVD as in the AVCM(TD) Syllabus, except the Dissertation must be 1500-2000 words in length (excluding topics set for AVCM(TD)), and the DVD should be about 30 minutes in length, showing about 20 minutes work on a piece of at least Grade 6 level, and about ten minutes on two other aspects of Teaching of this instrument.

### PERFORMANCE SECTION (40 Marks)

To play TWO pieces by DIFFERENT composers, from the LVCM Syllabus I list (one of which may be an own choice)

### TEACHING SECTION (50 Marks)

The candidate is to present TWO contrasted pieces by DIFFERENT composers from the VCM Grade Examination lists for this instrument, as follows

ONE piece from the Grade 6-7 lists;

ONE piece from Grade 8.

The candidate must be able to demonstrate/discuss the teaching of these pieces to examination readiness, to explain the difficulties likely to be encountered by the pupil, and to suggest ways of overcoming these problems.

The examiner may request extracts or complete performances of the chosen pieces, and the candidate's playing of them WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT when arriving at the mark for this section.

The candidate must be able to demonstrate/discuss the teaching of Scalework as set for up to Grade 8.

### 4. SIGHT READING (10 Marks)

## **Dlectrum Guitar Playing**

### **Fellowship Diploma (FVCM) Syllabus I Performers Diploma**

Candidates for Fellowship must be Licentiates of the VCM in Guitar or other Stringed Instrument Playing unless it has been agreed in advance in writing that this requirement can be waived by virtue of equivalent qualifications. There is no Theory requirement for these diplomas.

Candidates for the Fellowship Diploma are required to prepare a concert recital for the examination and should dress accordingly.

Candidates must present to the examiner on the day of the exam a portfolio of the pieces offered at the practical exam which will include a concert programme, copies of the pieces performed and some factual information about the pieces submitted. One of the solos must be a substantial guitar work. e.g. concerto, sonata or a suite.

#### **Solo recital (90 marks)**

#### **Questions (10 marks)**

To discuss the pieces performed intelligently with the examiner, and repertoire for the instrument in general.

### **Fellowship Diploma (FVCM(TD)) Syllabus II Teachers Diploma**

Candidates must submit with their entry a Dissertation or DVD as in the LVCM (TD) Syllabus, except that the dissertation must be 3500-5000 words in length (excluding topics set for AVCM (TD) or material already submitted for LVCM (TD)), and the DVD should be about 40 minutes in length, showing about 25 minutes work on a piece of at least DipVCMAVCM level, and about 15 minutes on two other aspects of the teaching of this instrument.

#### **PERFORMANCE SECTION (40 Marks)**

To play TWO contrasting pieces, of a standard commensurate with the Fellowship examination lasting approximately 20 minutes

#### **TEACHING SECTION (50 Marks)**

The candidate is to present TWO contrasted pieces by DIFFERENT composers from the VCM Grade Examinations in Traditional Piano, as follows:

ONE piece from the Grade 8 Syllabus

ONE piece from the AVCM , or LVCM Syllabuses.

The candidate must be able to demonstrate/discuss the teaching of these pieces to examination readiness, to explain the difficulties likely to be encountered by the pupil, and to suggest ways of overcoming these problems.

The examiner may request extracts or complete performances of the chosen pieces, and the candidate's playing of them WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT when arriving at the mark for this section.

#### **SIGHT READING (10 Marks)**