# Welcome to

# Percussion

# Academy

Grade 1

# A series of graded examinations Designed by drummers, for drummers.

# **LIVE EXAMINATIONS**

There are 2 forms of live, face to face examination available: ACADEMY GRADE and PERFORMANCE GRADE

#### ACADEMY GRADE EXAMINATION:

Consists of:

- 1. A selection of rudiments chosen by the examiner, played (and may be read) from this book.
- 2. Three pieces to be played.

One of the pieces must be chosen from this book,

and two from either this book or our backing track section.

3. Supporting tests:

Sight reading

Study for a maximum of 1 minute and then attempt to play a short solo piece.

Ensemble

Accompany a soundtrack chosen by the examiner.

**Repetition** 

Repeat a phrase after a second playing by the examiner.

Time signature

On being given the pulse, recognise the time signature of a

rhythm, played twice by the examiner.

Musical genre

Candidates will be requested to play the genres listed on the genres page

Viva Voce

Candidates will be asked a maximum of 6 questions relating to either the pieces played or the drum kit, see the viva voce page.

#### **PERFORMANCE EXAMINATION:**

Consists of:

4 pieces only to be played.

One of the pieces must be chosen from this book

and three from either this book or our list of backing tracks.

No supporting tests are required for performance grade examinations.

A LIST OF BACKING TRACKS IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE:

www.percussionacademy.co.uk

## **RECORDED EXAMINATIONS**

There are 2 forms of recorded examination available: PERFORMANCE GRADE and RECITAL GRADE

#### PERFORMANCE GRADE EXAMINATION

The entire exam must be one continuous recording.

Each recording must be labelled with the candidate's name and the grade. Consists of:

4 pieces only to be played.

One of the pieces must be chosen from this book

and three from either this book or our list of backing tracks.

No supporting tests are required for performance grade examinations.

#### Candidate to:

State their name at the start of the recording,

State the name of each piece prior to playing it.

GRADES 6-8 <u>only</u>: proof of identity should be shown at the beginning of the recording. If not possible a parent/guardian may show proof of identity and confirm the identity of the candidate.

#### **RECITAL GRADE EXAMINATION**

Each piece may be a separate recording, each labelled with the candidate's name and the title of the piece to be performed.

#### **Consists of:**

4 pieces only to be played.

One of the pieces must be chosen from this book

and three from either this book or our list of backing tracks.

No supporting tests are required for performance grade examinations.

#### Candidate to:

State their name and the title of the piece to be performed.

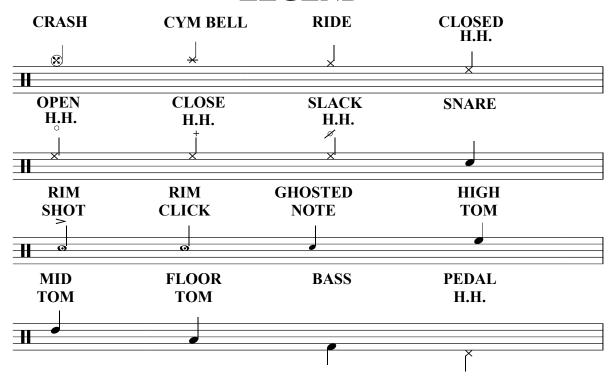
Although Recital recordings are examined by our specialist examiners under the same strict conditions as all other Percussion Academy examinations, they do not attract UCAS points.

For further details of Recital exams please visit the Percussion Academy website.

IN DEPTH DETAILS OF RECORDED EXAMS AND A LIST OF BACKING TRACKS IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE:

www.percussionacademy.co.uk

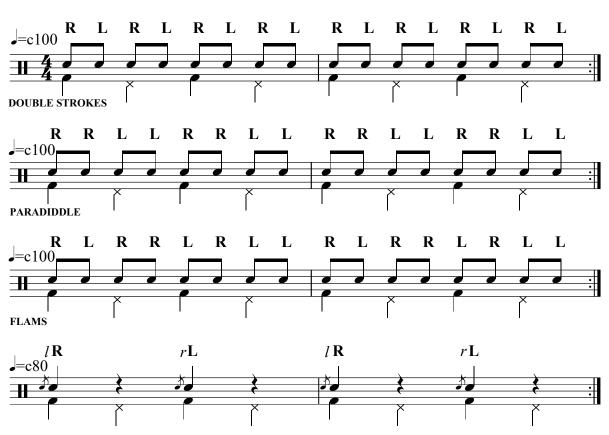
# **LEGEND**



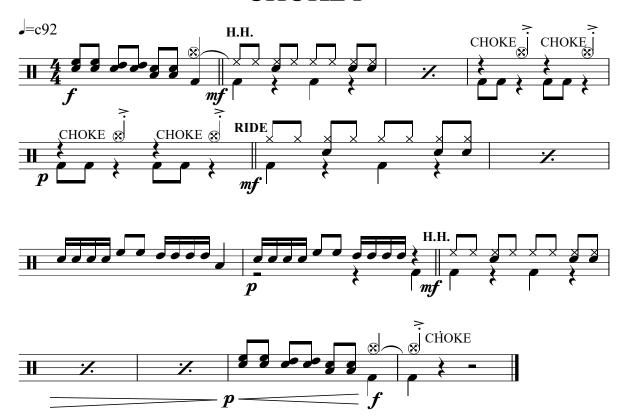
#### **RUDIMENTS**

REVERSE THE STICKING FOR A LEFT-HANDED KIT CONFIGURATION

#### SINGLE STROKES



# **CHOKEY**



# **CROWDED**

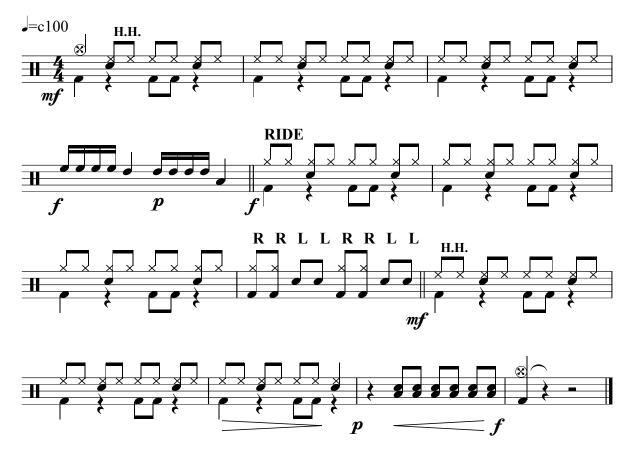


#### **COOL BLUE**

slow blues tempo



# ROCK 'EM UP



#### SWING THE BELL









#### **SWING OUT**





## ODD ONE OUT

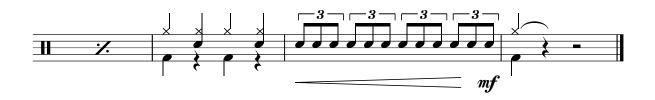


#### **BRUSHED OFF**









## **ROUND AND ROUND**



#### JAMAICA WAY



## THREE'S A CROWD













#### EAST SIDE SHUFFLE



# **CHILL TIME**



# SIGHT READING

The candidate will be requested to play one piece of music similar to one of the samples below. One minute will be allowed for studying the piece prior to playing.





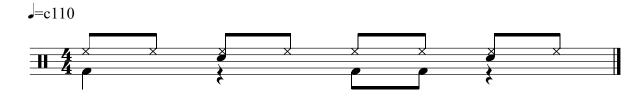






#### **ENSEMBLE**

Candidates will be requested to accompany a piece of music for approximately 45 seconds. Drum fills may be inserted as appropriate but are not necessary. An example of the required standard of rhythm for this grade is:



#### REPETITION

Candidates will be requested to repeat a pattern played by the examiner. The examiner will play the pattern twice.

An example of the required standard for this grade is:



## TIME SIGNATURES

Candidates will be requested to state the time signature of a 4 bar phrase played twice by the examiner. The pulse will be given.

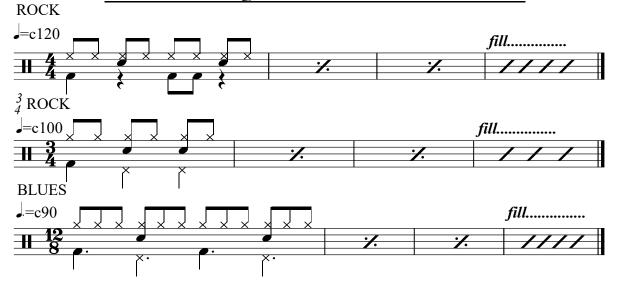
Examples for this grade are:



# **MUSICAL GENRES**

Candidates will be requested to improvise 3 bars in one of the following styles, ending with a fill bar.

#### EXAMPLES OF REQUIRED STANDARD FOR THIS GRADE



#### Candidates will be asked a maximum of 6 questions from the following list.

<u>note</u>	<u>rest</u>		Crescendo
] minim	-	<u>]</u> .	Dot extends the time value of the note/rest by 50% Accent (play note stronger (louder))
crotchet	<b>}</b>	D.C.	Da Capo (play from the beginning)
guaver	7	44	Time signature. Indicates the number & type of beat per bar.
	ÿ	J=120	Metronome Mark. Indicates tempo i.e. 120 beats per minute
§ semiquaver	7	%	Repeat previous bar
repeat section between the	on of music dots		Stave
Point to the snare drum rim			Bar line
" "	shell lugs		Final double bar line
" "	tuning rods release lever	$f\!\!f$	fortissimo
Explain the main difference between the heads of the snare drum (strength). Name the heads of the snare drum (batter & snare).		f	forte
		mf	mezzo forte
Name the drums & cymbals.		mp	mezzo piano
		$\boldsymbol{p}$	piano

Examiner's signature	(live exams	)
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Each candidate will be required to present their individual copy of the book In live exams the examiner will sign the book.

If necessary the book may be re-used for examination retakes by the same candidate. The book to be signed each time.

Photocopies, PDF's etc, of this book are not allowed.