

VIOLA—LEVEL 9

Performance Exam Requirements

Duration of exam: 25 minutes

Scales and Arpeggios (Memory is required.)

Play one from each of these three categories:

1. Three-octave major scale in Db, D, Eb, F, or G. Slur two sets of triplet eighths or eight sixteenths, followed by the modulating series of arpeggios (as in Flesch, Barber or Sevcik), slurring one set of triplet eighths or more.
2. Three-octave melodic or harmonic minor scale in c, d, e, f, or g, followed by tonic and subdominant arpeggios. Bowings as above.
3. One-octave major scale in double-stopped octaves or sixths in any key. Slur two eighths.

Metronome: quarter note = 72-88

Use whole bows on all.

Etude (Memory is not required.)

One etude, or two etudes totaling a minimum of one page.

3 Pieces (Memory is strongly recommended and will be graded.)

Piano accompaniment is required for 18th C. and later sonatas; highly recommended for other repertoire.

- One fast concerto movement;
- One short piece in contrasting style; and
- One movement from a Bach Cello Suite (Nos. 2-6)

A substantial piece (such as the Bloch: Suite Hebraique or Weber: Andante and Hungarian Rondo) may be substituted for the concerto movement. Either the concerto movement or the short piece should be from an era other than the Baroque.

Sight Reading

Note: Sight reading is currently only part of the in-person exam

Range might exceed two octaves

Major and minor keys up to three sharps and three flats with some accidentals

Meters: 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, 6/8, 3/8, 9/8, 12/8, 2/2

Note values might include dotted eighths and sixteenth in one beat and eighth and sixteenth rests

Slurs of two, three, four, six, or eight notes

Shifting to second and third position

Possible change to treble clef

Recommended Goals for Level 9

Increased fluency and ease of shifting in high positions and in double stops

Clean and even passagework and extended fast passages

Study of artificial harmonics

Continued overall progress in technical skills and tone production

Further development of expressive vocabulary in shifting, vibrato, tone colors, and double stops, varied to suit interpretation

Heightened development of a sense of style and instrumental imagination

Examples of Music Suitable for Level 9

Note: Teachers may choose any publisher or any other works of comparable level. Listings with asterisks cover more than one level. Please check the guidelines and recommendations for this level to determine if a selection is level appropriate.

Scale Books

Barber: Scales for Advanced Violists*

Flesch: Scale System*

Mogill: Advanced Scale Studies

Etudes and Technical Studies

Campagnoli: 41 Caprices

Fiorillo: 31 Selected Studies*

Fuchs: 15 Characteristic Studies*

Hoffmeister: 12 Studies

Hofmann: Melodic Double Stop Studies*

Kreutzer: 42 Etudes*

Mazas: Etudes Brilliantes, Op. 36, Book 2*

Palaschko: 12 Studies, Op. 55

Palaschko: Studies, Op. 49

Palaschko: 20 Studies, Op. 36

Pieces

Bach: 3 Sonatas for Viola da Gamba
Bach: Cello Suites, Nos. 2-6
Bloch: Suite Hebraique
Bowen: Melody on the C String (Weinberger)
Bowen: Sonata #1 in c minor
Brahms/Borissovsky: Lullaby (from Album of 6 Pieces {International})
Britten: Elegy
Dittersdorf: Concerto in F major
Forsyth: Concerto in g minor, mvmts. 1 & 3
Harberg: For Sydney
Hindemith: Meditation
Hoffmeister: Concerto in D major, mvmt. 1
Holst: Lyric Movement
Hummel: Potpourri, Op. 94 (Henle)
Hummel: Sonata in E-flat major
Jacob: Air and Dance
Joachim: Hebrew Melodies
Mussorgsky/Katims: Hopak (from Album of 6 Pieces {International})
Penderecki: Sarabanda (Schott)
Penderecki: Tanz (Schott)
Persichetti: Infanta Marina
Ries: Perpetuum Mobile
Schubert/Katims or von Wrochem: Arpeggione Sonata, mvmts. 1 & 2 (International)
Schumann: Märchenbilder, mvmts. 1, 2 & 4
Sitt: Concertpiece
K. Stamitz/Meyer: Concerto in D major, Op. 1, mvmt. 1 (International)
Tertis: A Lionel Tertis Album (Weinberger)
Vaughan Williams: Romance
Vieuxtemps: Capriccio for Solo Viola
Weber/Schunemann: Andante and Rondo Ongarese, Op. 35 (Schott)

Suggestions for additional study material, not suitable for the exam:

Harvey: Octave Scale Studies for the Viola, Book 1*
Harvey: Octaves for the Viola, Book 1*
Kember & Smith: Viola Sight-Reading 2*
Kievman: Practicing the Viola Mentally and Physically*
Schradieck: School of Viola Technique, Book 1*
Sevčík: School of Bowing, Op. 2*
Sevčík: Preparatory Studies in Double-Stopping, Op. 9*
Sevčík: Shifting the Position, Op. 8*
Starer: Rhythmic Training*
Wreede: Violaerobics*