Criteria	Mark Band 1	Mark Band 2	Mark Band 3	Mark Band 4
Technical control and accuracy (pitch, intonation, rhythm, tone and articulation)	A performance that contains many inaccuracies that disrupt the overall flow of the music or where the demands of the music are mostly beyond the technical ability of the candidate.	A fairly competent performance that contains inaccuracies but still manages to sustain the overall flow of the music.	A performance that is largely accurate across the full range of the programme, but which contains lapses in some areas.	A performance that demonstrates good technical control and accuracy across the full programme, achieving a high level of fluency.
	(1–5)	(6–9)	(10–13)	(14–17)
Expressive interpretation, sense of style and communication (choice of tempo, dynamics, phrasing and other stylistic conventions)	A performance that displays a limited understanding of the stylistic features of the music, with very little sense of colour or musical meaning.	A performance that displays some sense of style and interpretation and some ability to identify with the music itself. However, the music may be mechanical or limited in its communication.	A performance that has a good sense of style, with some ability to communicate the style of the music in line with the composer's intentions.	A performance that displays a strong knowledge and understanding of the music performed, including the ability to interpret and communicate its expressive content and style. At the upper end, there is evidence of a high level of musical maturity.
	(1–5)	(6–9)	(10–13)	(14–17)
Viva voce	Limited ability to discuss the chosen programme in terms of technical challenges and/or points of interpretation.	Some knowledge of the chosen programme and ability to discuss technical challenges and/or points of interpretation.	Good knowledge of the chosen programme and ability to discuss in detail the technical challenges and points of interpretation.	Excellent knowledge of the chosen programme and ability to discuss analytically the technical challenge and points of interpretation.
	(1–2)	(3–4)	(5-6)	(7-8)
Level of demand	Music equivalent to Grade 5	Music equivalent to Grade 6	Music equivalent to Grade 7 or above	
	(3)	(6)	(9)	