Marking scheme
The examiner will award an overall grading, rather than a mark, on the following basis:
A  Pass with Distinction
B  Pass with Merit
C  Pass
F  Failure to reach the standard required to pass

Specimen tests
Examples of the tests are given in Specimen Tests: Practical Musicianship and Musicianship in Practice, available for purchase from music retailers and from www.abrsm.org/publications.

New syllabus
A new Musicianship syllabus is planned, and may be introduced before the expiry of this syllabus booklet. For updates, see www.abrsm.org/exams.

Practical Musicianship GRADE 1
A  To tap, as an echo, the rhythm-pattern of two two-bar phrases in simple time played by the examiner. The echoes should follow each phrase in strict time without an intervening pause.
B  To sing, as an echo, two two-bar phrases in simple time played by the examiner. The echoes should follow each phrase in strict time without an intervening pause.
C  To play from memory, on an instrument chosen by the candidate, a two-bar melody played twice by the examiner. The key-chord will first be sounded and the starting note appropriate to the candidate’s instrument will be named.
D  To sing at sight a four-bar melody in $\frac{2}{4}$ time to a simple accompaniment played by the examiner. The key-chord and starting note will first be sounded and named, and the pulse indicated.
E  To improvise with voice or instrument, at the choice of the candidate, a two-bar answering phrase to a two-bar phrase played by the examiner. The key-chord and the starting note appropriate to the candidate’s voice or chosen instrument will first be sounded and named. The answering phrase should follow in strict time after the examiner has played the opening phrase. A second attempt will be allowed.
F  To recognize, from the printed score, the three or four changes made to pitch and note values in a melody played twice by the examiner. The candidate will be required to point to and explain the differences. The key-chord will be sounded before the melody is played.

Practical Musicianship GRADE 2
A  To sing, as an echo, two two-bar phrases in simple time played by the examiner, whilst continuously tapping a repeated rhythm pattern (i.e. an ostinato) previously indicated by the examiner. The echoes should follow each phrase in strict time without an intervening pause.
B  To play from memory, on an instrument chosen by the candidate, a two-bar melody played twice by the examiner. The key-chord will first be sounded and the starting note appropriate to the candidate’s instrument will be named.
C  To sing at sight a four-bar melody in $\frac{2}{4}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ time to a simple accompaniment played by the examiner. The key-chord and starting note will first be sounded and named, and the pulse indicated.

(continued overleaf)
Practical Musicianship GRADE 2

D To improvise with voice or instrument, at the choice of the candidate, a two-bar answering phrase to a two-bar phrase played by the examiner. The key-chord and the starting note appropriate to the candidate’s voice or chosen instrument will first be sounded and named. The answering phrase should follow in strict time after the examiner has played the opening phrase. A second attempt will be allowed.

E To recognize, from the printed score, the three or four changes made to pitch and note values in a melody played twice by the examiner. The candidate will be required to point to and explain the differences. The key-chord will be sounded before the melody is played.

Practical Musicianship GRADE 3

A To sing, as an echo, two two-bar phrases in simple time played by the examiner, whilst continuously tapping a repeated rhythm pattern (i.e. an ostinato) previously indicated by the examiner. The echoes should follow each phrase in strict time without an intervening pause.

B To play from memory, on an instrument chosen by the candidate, a two-bar melody played twice by the examiner. The key-chord will first be sounded and the starting note appropriate to the candidate’s instrument will be named.

C To sing at sight a four-bar melody in $\frac{3}{4}$ time to an accompaniment played by the examiner. The key-chord and starting note will first be sounded and named, and the pulse indicated.

D To improvise with voice or instrument, at the choice of the candidate, a four-bar answering phrase to a four-bar phrase played by the examiner. The key-chord and the starting note appropriate to the candidate’s voice or chosen instrument will first be sounded and named. The answering phrase should follow in strict time after the examiner has played the opening phrase. A second attempt will be allowed.

E To recognize, from the printed score, the four changes made to pitch, note and rest values and dynamics in a melody played twice by the examiner. The candidate will be required to point to and explain the differences. The key-chord will be sounded before the melody is played.

Practical Musicianship GRADE 4

A To sing and play from memory a four-bar melody in $\frac{2}{4}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ time. The key-chord and starting note will first be sounded and named. The examiner will play the melody twice and the candidate will be required to sing the melody from memory. The examiner will then play the melody a third time and the candidate will be required to play the melody on an instrument of his/her choice. The examiner will choose a key and pitch suitable for the instrument.

B To sing at sight the lower part of a two-part passage of two bars’ length while the examiner plays the upper part. The key-chord and starting note will first be sounded and named, and the pulse indicated.

C To sing at sight a short melody in $\frac{3}{4}$ time to an accompaniment played by the examiner. The key-chord and starting note will first be sounded and named, and the pulse indicated.

D To improvise with voice or instrument, at the choice of the candidate, an extension to the given opening of a short melody over a simple accompaniment played by the examiner. The implied harmonic scheme will be confined to chords of the tonic and dominant. The candidate will be given a part showing the melody in different keys and with different clefs to accommodate the full range of instruments. A second attempt will be allowed. Keyboard candidates should be prepared to play an octave higher than written.

E To recognize, from the printed score, the four changes (which may include pitch, rhythm, dynamics and tempo) in a short piano piece played twice by the examiner. Changes to notes and rhythm will be confined to the melodic line. The candidate will be required to point to and explain the differences.