

Topics Grade 8 Theory ABRSM

General

As in preceding grades. The harmonic vocabulary expected will *include all standard diatonic chords* (any chord on any scale degree in major and minor keys, including their inversions; diminished seventh; dominant seventh; supertonic seventh and all other secondary seventh chords) *and chromatic chords* (Neapolitan; chromatic diminished sevenths; secondary function chords; augmented 6ths; borrowed and altered chords). Questions will cover:

1. Continuation of a given opening of a passage from a Baroque trio sonata for two treble instruments and basso continuo. The basso continuo part will be given throughout and fully figured (but a realization for keyboard will not be required).
2. Completion of an outline of a short passage for keyboard. Some knowledge of the styles practised by composers from Haydn onwards will be assumed.
3. Continuation of a given opening of a melody for a specified instrument (a choice will be given).
4. Questions on short extracts of music written for piano or in open score for voices or for any combination of instruments and/or voices, designed to test the candidate's knowledge of the elements and notation of music, including the realization of ornaments, the identification and notation of underlying harmonic structure, phrase structure, style, performance, and on the voices and instruments for which the works were written.

