

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level A - age 8 & below

### Category

#### Notation

Circle if picture is High/Low

Circle Up/Down

Circle High sounds/Low sounds

Circle Music Alphabet in a group of letters

Circle complete music alphabet amongst 3 examples

Circle groups of Two Black Keys & Three Black Keys on a keyboard

Circle number of objects in a box

Circle line or space notes on a staff

Fill in a half note to make a quarter note

Know that a half note = 2 quarter notes for music math

Circle *p* or *f* for a given picture

#### Rhythm

Recognize a quarter rest as silence

Write counts (1 1 1 1) below quarter notes or quarter rests (no time signature)

#### Dynamics

*forte, piano*

#### Vocabulary

Circle:

Bar line

High/Low

Up/Down

Step Up

A B C D E F G

Keyboard

Line and Space notes

*forte, piano*

Quarter note & rest

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level B - age 8 & below

### Category

- Notation**
- Circle DOWN or UP below arrows under a keyboard to identify direction as up or down from middle of keyboard
  - Circle direction of five whole notes on a staff as up or down
  - Write the missing letter of the Music Alphabet
  - Write the letter name a step up from the given letter
  - Number the lines & spaces of the staff
  - Color Two & Three Black Key Groups on a keyboard
  - Circle the number of the line or space a note is on
  - Circle the highest note in each given measure
- Rhythm**
- Write counts using quarter notes or rests (no time signatures) 1 1 1 1
  - Circle number of beats for quarter note, quarter rest, half note
- Dynamics** *p f*
- Vocabulary**
- After
  - Counts
  - Half note
  - Highest
  - Lowest
  - Missing
  - Number of beats
  - Number lines & spaces of staff
  - Staff
  - Step down

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level C - age 8 & below

### Category

#### Notation

Circle Treble Clef if picture is high & Bass Clef if picture is low

Write the number of the line or space a note is on

Write the letter before, after, or in between given letters

Label CDE & FGAB on a keyboard

Label RH (Right Hand) & LH (Left Hand)

Draw or label two Whole Notes as step up, step down or repeat on a staff

Circle the lowest note in each given measure

Circle the letter name of notes in Treble Clef & Bass Clef

Whole Notes: be able to draw a Whole Note on a line or space

#### Rhythm

Write counts under Quarter Notes, Quarter Rests & Half Notes (no time signature) 1111 or 1-2 1-2, etc.

#### Dynamics

*p f*

#### Vocabulary

Bass Clef (low)

Before

Between

Half Rests

Quarter Rests

Whole Rests

Repeated note

CDE/FGAB

RH/LH

Step up

Step down

Skip

Treble Clef (high)

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 1

### Category

**Notation** Apply stem rule  
Music Alphabet going up  
Dotted Half Note  
Draw Quarter, Half, Dotted Half, & Whole Notes on a particular line or in a particular space of the staff  
Half Rest  
Label note as line or space  
Letter names of lines & spaces in Treble and Bass Clefs  
Number lines & spaces of a staff

**Rhythm** Number of beats for Quarter, Half, Dotted Half, & Whole Notes  
Number of beats for Quarter, Half, & Whole Rests  
Write counts & and draw bar lines in 3/4 or 4/4 time

**Intervals** Circle or draw: step and skip  
Label: two Whole Notes as up, down, or repeat on a staff

**Dynamics** *f, p*

**Vocabulary** Circle:  
Bar Line  
Bass Clef  
Dotted Half Note  
Double bar line  
*forte*  
Half Note  
Half Rest  
Left Hand (LH)  
Measure  
Meter  
Music Alphabet  
Note Head  
*piano*  
Quarter Note  
Quarter Rest  
Right Hand (RH)  
Skip  
Staff  
Stem  
Step  
Time Signature  
Treble Clef  
Whole Note  
Whole Rest

**Apply** Recognize any concept mentioned above or from a previous level in a line of music

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 2

### Category

#### Notation

Music Alphabet going up two times  
Name or draw all lines & spaces & stepping up Treble or Bass Staff  
Dot rule  
Draw 2nd or 3rd from a given note  
Draw different types of notes on a particular line or space of the staff  
Draw Quarter, Half & Whole rests on a particular line or space of the staff

#### Rhythm

Two-beamed Eighth Notes (1 beat)  
Draw bar lines  
Write counts  
Draw double bar line

#### Intervals

Recognize & draw 2nd or 3rd  
Half & Whole Steps on a keyboard  
Step = 2nd; Skip = 3rd

#### Dynamics

*forte, mezzo forte; mezzo piano, piano*

#### Vocabulary

Matching  
ACEG (space names on the Bass Staff)  
Beat  
Dynamics  
EGBDF (line names on the Treble Staff)  
FACE (space names on the Treble Staff)  
Flat  
GBDFA (line names on the Bass Staff)  
Half Rest  
Half Step on a keyboard  
Meter  
*mf*  
*mp*  
Pulse  
Repeated note  
Sharp  
2nd, 3rd  
Whole Step on a keyboard  
Interval  
F Clef  
G Clef  
Grand Staff

#### Apply

C or G Major 5-finger pattern on a keyboard or a staff  
Recognize concepts above or from a previous level in a four-measure example

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 3

### Category

<b>Notation</b>	Circle/draw & name Whole Note on tonic Draw slurs to mark Half Steps in a Major scale Draw in front of notes: flat, sharp, & natural Middle C in Treble or Bass Music Alphabet up & down Name and draw all notes in Treble and Bass Staff using Whole Notes Stem rule
<b>Rhythm</b>	Draw missing note or rest to complete a measure Meaning of top number of 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 5/4, or 6/4 time signature
<b>Scales &amp; Key Signatures</b>	Write Major scale pattern Name C, F, & G Major scales & key signatures Draw tonic Mark Half Steps in Major scale with slurs
<b>Intervals</b>	Half & Whole Steps on staff Name 2nd 8va on a staff
<b>Dynamics</b>	<i>ff</i> , <i>pp</i> <i>crescendo</i> , <i>decrescendo</i>
<b>Vocabulary</b>	Accidental Beam <i>crescendo</i> <i>decrescendo</i> Dot <i>fortissimo (ff)</i> Key Signature <i>legato</i> Major scale pattern <i>mezzo forte (mf)</i> <i>mezzo piano (mp)</i> Natural <i>pianissimo (pp)</i> <i>ritardando (ritard., rit.)</i> Slur <i>staccato</i> Tie (line) Tonic Triad Brace 8va Keynote
<b>Apply</b>	Recognize C, G, & F Major scales & key signatures Draw a Whole Note on tonic

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 4

### Category

#### Notation

Beamed Eighth Notes, same pitch  
Eighth Note and Eighth Rest  
Draw a brace & double bar on a Grand Staff  
Draw tonic triad in root position  
Draw simple intervals  
Flat, Natural, & Sharp  
Name & draw notes & rests  
Draw Treble (G) Clef & Bass (F) Clefs

#### Rhythm

Write counts & draw bar lines with Eighth Notes & Eighth Rests  
Time signatures with 4 on the bottom  
Common time, Music Math

#### Scales & Key Signatures

Major scales: C, G, D, A, E, F  
Complete scales  
Write order of Sharps and Flats  
Name and draw tonic & key signatures for C, G, D, A, E, & F Major; mark Half Steps

#### Intervals

Draw on staff: unison - 8th going up (ascending)  
Name on staff: Half & Whole Steps  
On a keyboard diagram, circle Major or minor 3rd  
Write the number of Half Steps in Major or minor 3rds on a keyboard diagram

#### Chords

Root position tonic triad

#### Vocabulary

Accidental

*Adagio*

*al finé*

*Allegro*

*Andante*

*a tempo*

Chord

Chromatic signs

Circle of 5ths

Common time (C)

Consonant

*Da Capo (DC)*

*Dal Segno (DS)*

Dissonant

Eighth Note & Eighth Rest

8va

*fermata*

*finé*

Flag

Grand Staff

Major/minor 3rd

Major chord

*Moderato*

Octave

Primary chords (triads)

Repeat sign

*ritardando (ritard., rit.)*

*tempo*

unison

root position triad

#### Apply

tonic triad root position

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 5

### Category

<b>Notation</b>	Eighth and Sixteenth Notes with flags & beams Dotted Quarter & Dotted Eighth Notes Sixteenth Rests Ledger Lines Draw root position I, IV, V chords (triads) Draw & name notes with a Sharp, Flat, or Natural (sign)
<b>Rhythm</b>	Beamed Eighth & Sixteenth Notes in time signature with 4 on the bottom Dotted Quarter & Dotted Eighth Notes Sixteenth Notes & Rests Write counts Draw bar lines
<b>Scales &amp; Key Signatures</b>	Complete Major scales & draw key signatures through 5 Sharps and 5 Flats Mark Half Steps Add chromatic signs
<b>Intervals</b>	Draw Whole/Half/Enharmonic Notes on next line or space Melodic/Harmonic intervals Draw 8va higher or lower
<b>Chords</b>	I, IV, V & Major triads
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<i>arpeggio</i> Authentic cadence Chord DC <i>al finé</i> DS <i>al finé</i> <i>Diminuendo</i> Dominant Enharmonic spelling Ledger Lines Motive Ornament Pentatonic scale Phrase Subdominant Syncopation Triad root Melodic & harmonic intervals Sixteenth Note & Rest
<b>Apply</b>	Primary chords



# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 6

### Category

- Notation** Draw notes with Ledger Lines, flags, stems, beams, accidentals  
Apply stem rule to beamed notes  
High & Low C  
Recognize given chords as I, IV, or V in a Major key
- Rhythm** 6/8, 9/8, time signature  
Beamed notes in 6/8 time  
Recognize difference between 3/4 & 6/8 time  
Dotted Quarter Rest  
Triplets
- Scales & Key Signatures** Draw & name all Major scales & key signatures  
Complete Major Circle of 5ths
- Intervals** Perfect 5th (7 Half Steps)  
Name/draw all simple intervals with Ledger Lines (up & down)  
Label W, H, W+H, 0 Step  
Major/minor 3rds  
Unison
- Chords** I, IV, V in root position on a Grand Staff
- Vocabulary** *accelerando*  
*Allegretto*  
baton  
Binary form (AB)  
concert master  
conductor  
*con moto*  
Dominant triad  
Fugue  
Harpsichord  
Minuet  
Opera  
*poco a poco*  
Prelude  
*rallentando*  
reed  
*ritardando*  
root  
scale degree  
subdominant triad  
Ternary form (ABA)  
tonic triad  
Two-part Invention  
triad third  
triad fifth  
Triplet  
*Vivace*  
minor triad
- Apply** Name the key of a musical example

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 7

### Category

<b>Notation</b>	Exact same pitch Double Sharps & Double Flats Chromatic & Diatonic Half Steps Whole Step on next line or space
<b>Rhythm</b>	Rhythm, Beat, Meter: Simple, Compound, Asymmetrical Conducting patterns 12/8 time signature
<b>Scales &amp; Key Signatures</b>	All Major & natural minor scales Draw chromatic signs Mark Half Steps Natural minor scale pattern Relative Major/minor key signatures minor circle of 5ths
<b>Intervals</b>	Perfect & Major, Chromatic & Diatonic Half Steps Circle: higher/lower sounding pitch
<b>Chords</b>	Draw primary chords on a Grand Staff in root position Identify Major or minor chords Complete minor circle of fifths Draw Major triad from a given root Spell Major triads
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<i>Andantino</i> <i>Allegretto</i> <i>animato</i> Articulation Chromatic Half Step Compound, Simple, & Asymmetrical meter Concerto Diatonic Half Step <i>dolce</i> <i>Largo</i> <i>Lento</i> <i>meno mosso</i> Natural minor scale <i>piu mosso</i> Rhythm <i>sempre</i> <i>sforzando</i> String quartet Suite Symphony Theme & Variations
<b>Apply</b>	Concepts above

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 8

### Category

<b>Notation</b>	Chord inversions with figured bass Beamed notes Label type of minor
<b>Rhythm</b>	2/2 cut time Note groupings Draw time signature
<b>Scales &amp; Key Signatures</b>	All Major, natural, harmonic & melodic minor scales All Major & minor key signatures Draw tonic
<b>Intervals</b>	Draw Major & Perfect intervals minor 3rd
<b>Chords</b>	Major, minor chords & primary chords in root position & inversions with figured bass Name root, quality of chord (use harmonic minor) & position on single staff
<b>Composition/ Transposition</b>	Melody only in 3/4, 4/4, 6/8 time
<b>Composition/ Harmony</b>	Sequence
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<i>a cappella</i> <i>alla breve</i> <i>cantabile</i> <i>espressivo</i> 1st & 2nd inversion triad <i>Lied</i> <i>marcato</i> <i>melodic sequence</i> <i>misterioso</i> <i>morendo</i> <i>non tanto</i> <i>poco a poco</i> rhythmic imitation root <i>rubato</i> <i>senza</i> <i>subito</i> <i>tanto</i> tone poem virtuoso Waltz Alberti bass Augmented 2nd <b>harmonic &amp; melodic minor scale</b> Cut time
<b>Apply</b>	Type of minor Label concepts

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 9

### Category

**Notation** Label chords on Grand Staff with Roman numerals & figured bass in Major & minor keys  
Open & close harmony

**Rhythm** Thirty-second Notes & Thirty-second Rests  
Name meter

**Scales & Key Signatures** Scale degree names  
Chromatic & Whole Tone scales  
Name & draw parallel minor scales & key signatures

**Intervals** All types -- Major, minor, Perfect, diminished, & Augmented  
Draw two enharmonic notes to given note

**Chords** Draw Major, minor, diminished, & Augmented triads in root position  
Authentic V - I & half cadence IV - V  
Voice-Leading rules  
Label chords with Roman numerals & figured bass  
Name root, quality & position of chord on a single staff -- all types

**Composition/Transposition** Write an 8-measure melody in Major

**Composition/Harmony** Perfect & Imperfect Authentic cadence & Half cadence: Resolve  
Write bass notes & Roman numerals

**Vocabulary** *ad libitum*  
*agitato*  
Alto  
*aria*  
Augmented & diminished intervals  
Bass  
Common tone  
Close/Open harmony  
*grave*  
*grazioso*  
Half cadence  
Leading tone  
*leggiere*  
*Lieder*  
Parallel keys & parallel movement  
Pentatonic scale  
*Prestissimo*  
*Presto*  
Program music  
*simplice*  
Soprano  
Tenor  
*tenuto*  
*vivo*  
Whole tone scale

**Apply** Musical elements

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 10

### Category

<b>Notation</b>	6, 6/4 V7 - I Chords on a Major scale with scale degree names & Roman numerals Perfect & Imperfect authentic cadence
<b>Rhythm</b>	Name meter: difficult
<b>Scales &amp; Key Signatures</b>	Write 3 types of minor scales Draw & name relative & parallel keys
<b>Intervals</b>	Draw & name all types
<b>Chords</b>	I, ii, iii, IV, V, vi, vii <sup>o</sup> in Major keys Identify all types in root position & inversions Harmonic analysis Major keys with Roman numerals 7th chords -- quality of chord & quality of 7th V7 in root position & inversions with figured bass Plagal cadence
<b>Transposition</b>	Melodic minor
<b>Composition/ Harmony</b>	Four-part harmonic analysis with Roman numerals Voice-Leading rules Melody writing in melodic minor Identify cadences
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<i>a piacere</i> <i>assai</i> Authentic cadence Atonality <i>cadenza</i> Chromatic scale deceptive cadence V7 chord <i>fuoco</i> half cadence homophonic Invention monophonic <i>non troppo</i> Overture <i>piangendo</i> <i>pizzicato</i> Plagal cadence polyphonic <i>Presto</i> Rondo form Scale degree names Seventh chord <i>sostenuto</i> <i>sotto voce</i> tritone <i>troppo</i>

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 11

### Category

<b>Notation</b>	V7 in inversions to I Chords on a harmonic minor scale with scale degree names & Roman numerals
<b>Rhythm</b>	Name meter: difficult
<b>Scales &amp; Key Signatures</b>	Relative & parallel minor scales Chromatic scale Whole tone scale
<b>Intervals</b>	Invert all types
<b>Chords</b>	Label: i, ii <sup>o</sup> , III+, iv, V, VI, vii <sup>o</sup> chords on harmonic minor scale Four-part harmonic analysis Circle non-harmonic tones Spell primary chords Add passing tone in authentic cadence V - I V7 resolution Draw a triad given the triad 3rd
<b>Composition/ Harmony</b>	Four-part harmonic writing in root position & minimal inversions Voice-leading rules
<b>Vocabulary</b>	ballet bi-tonal church modes: Ionian, Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian, Locrian climax contrapuntal contrary motion counterpoint Diatonic scale duet half-diminished imitation intonation interval complement invert Opera Oratorio Passing tone Prelude Relative keys trio Voice-Leading rules
<b>Apply</b>	Doubling rules

# National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Theory Exam Requirements

## Level 12

### Category

**Notation** Figured bass for inversions of triads: 6, 6/4; & seventh chords: 7, 6/5, 4/3, 2

**Rhythm** Name meter  
Difficult

**Scales &  
Key Signatures** Modes

**Intervals** Compound intervals

**Chords** Alberti Bass  
Cadential 6/4 chord progression  
Deceptive cadence in Major & minor  
Doubling rules  
Supertonic 7th chord in Major & minor (half-diminished)  
Secondary dominants  
Draw triad given the triad 5th

**Transposition** Modal piece

**Composition/  
Harmony** Authentic, half, plagal, & deceptive cadences  
Four-part harmonic writing with figured bass

**Vocabulary** *Alberti bass*  
*appoggiatura*  
*Allegro non troppo*  
*anacrusis*  
Canon  
Chamber music  
Compound intervals  
Countermotive  
Episode  
*Etude*  
Fugue  
*Hemiola*  
Homophonic  
Monophonic  
motive  
Neighboring tones  
Polyphonic  
*quasi*  
sacred  
secular  
Simple intervals  
*Sinfonia*  
*Sonata-Allegro* form  
Twelve-tone music  
*troubadour*

**Apply** Doubling rules