

## Aasin's Plan

### Level 4 Exam Preparation Plan (May 6 – Aug 6)

12 weeks before (May 6-June 6)	
Technical Tests: <b>Goal: Master major keys D/A/Bb/Eb through scales, chords and arpeggios.</b>	
Task: Familiar with the major and minor keys by practicing two-octave scales, tonic three-note broken and solid chords, and tonic arpeggios. The half of the class (at least 2 sessions) should be given to deal with the technical requirements, mostly focusing on the chords and arpeggios. The general practice to master the fingering should be used as the assignments.	
Etudes: <b>Goal: Master Ballad and choose another piece, focusing on pitch, rhythm accuracy, articulations, and mistake-free playing.</b>	
Task: The second etude should be played with slower temp, ensuring minimal mistakes. Paragraphs should be split it with intensive practice of each one. In this period, your concentration should be focused on the accuracy of pitches and rhythms. The general idea of slurs should be taught and practiced.	
Repertoire: <b>Goal: Practice to master List B Sonatina first, and then List C Happy Farmer; Analyze, refine accuracy, and explore master interpretation online.</b>	
Task: List C and B should be practiced with details during this period. The memory of the classical pieces always a tricky one, so analyzing should be done first. I would suggest you practice the List B for the first week and then start List C until the 11 weeks. The rest of the three weeks should work on the accuracy of the pieces. During this time, you should use online tools to check the background and masters' demonstrations of those pieces to see how they play. Questions with techniques should be addressed during class time.	
Ear Tests: <b>Goal: Fully understand syllabus required in this section.</b>	
Task: A basic understanding of the sections, such as the intervals, chords, and playback.	
Sight Reading: <b>Goal: Master the basic rhythm required in the syllabus.</b>	
Task: I would Start from the very basic rhythm training scores, and you clap back before the sight-reading. Before the last class, I would give you the material 48 hours before the class to practice.	
8 weeks before (June 6-July 6)	
Technical Tests: <b>Goal: Master all the required keys through scales, chords, and arpeggios.</b>	
Task: Master the keys above and get to know the rest of the required keys with scales, tonic chords, and arpeggios. Focus on the tempo. All the previous keys should be drawn to play during class time, making sure the rate of correctness is 60%. The half time of one class should be used to address the issues. Assignments, such as daily focusing on each key with issues, should be given.	

**Etudes: Goal: Be able to understand detailed accuracy, including ornamentation, dynamics, voice balance, and intensive practice.**

**Task:** This period should be folks on the accuracy of small details, such as ornamentation, emphasized notes, dynamics, and the balance of voices. Students should intensively practice the two pieces, with focusing on each paragraph or even motives. For example, the etude Ballad should be focused on the rests and pulse with slurs and fermata notes. In this period, no matter the etudes or the repertoires should be intensively practiced with details.

**Repertoire: Goal: Refine List C and B, develop Baroque piece and have musical imagination.**

**Task:** List C and B should keep working on with the details, while you can keep working on the Baroque piece. As to List A, this one should be given an immersive image while demonstrating them, so using musical imagination is essential.

**Ear Tests: Goal: Master all the required elements in clapback, playback, rhythm reading, and melodic sight-reading.**

**Task:** Clapback and playback should be focused on. In the beginning, you should get to know how to count the numbers of measures and notes. Next, new rhythm should be introduced and the syllabus. Repeated playing those new rhythms and time signature can be helpful. Using one or two classes to write down the melody is essential. I would use all online sessions to have the general view of how to write down the melody.

**Sight Reading: Goal: Get to know the details of the exam by simulating exams with sight-reading prep; focus on time signatures and rhythmic accuracy.**

**Task:** The sight-reading materials should be given 24 hours before their sessions to simulate the real exam. This period should be focused on the time signatures and rhythms.

#### 4 weeks before (July 6-August 6)

**Technical Tests: Goal: Master all the keys before this period, focusing on octaves and Hanon practice. Ensure 80% accuracy.**

**Task:** All the keys should be mastered before the start of this period. All the keys should be drawn to play in class, to make sure the rate of correctness is 80%. 15 mins should be given for each class to be used as simulation to locate the major issues. Assignments, such as intensive practicing major issues, should be done in two weeks.

**Etudes: Goal: memorize music forms, by using summarization to strengthen memory and understanding.**

**Task:** A memorization of the music forms and the paragraphs is essential. With reading music, you must have a specific memory of the framework of such pieces. For example, in Ballad, the repeated paragraphs show the change of the mood. Therefore, summarizing those paragraphs should be helpful for their memorization. The reason I choose to do this in this period instead of the beginning of the sessions is with summarization student can gain a scaffolding of their memories.

**Repertoire: Goal: Master Lists C and A with accuracy and refine articulation.**

Task: With mastering the List A and C, you can use those two pieces as their warm-up materials in the beginning of practice. List C and A should also be mastered with accuracy, so your focus should be on the articulation of the rest two. In addition, the four pieces should always be encouraged to find out more details by students. Therefore, the final assembling of those four pieces should be completed.

Ear Tests: **Goal: Get a full accuracy by simulating ear training.**

Task: I would use one RCM sessions to simulate the ear training. I would also suggest the students to mark their questions during the online sessions and get the feedback at the in-person class.

Sight Reading: **Goal: Get a full accuracy by using in-class materials as simulation.**

Task: The materials should be used in class, as to practice their Instinct of music. This two week sessions should be done in person because students should remain their ability of direct playing.

### 2 weeks before

Technical Tests: **Goal: Get a 90% accuracy and specific issues should be addressed.**

Task: Technical simulating should be given in this period. A quarter of the session should be used as systematic training. The simulating should be involved with all aspects. The intensive simulation should be done in this period to find out the specific issued locations. An assignment, such as intensive practicing those issues, should be given.

Etudes: **Goal: Meet the tempo requirements.**

Task: The final two weeks should be focusing on the big picture of the two pieces. The practice of the technical requirement section should be included with the two etudes.

Repertoire: **Goal: The two pieces should be well polished and performed in rehearsals.**

Task: The simulation of the exam should be done by playing the List A and B pieces with etudes. During this period, students need to memorize all details in the pieces and have their own view of demonstration. Articulation is also an important component. List C and D should also need to be final polished and memorized.

Ear Tests: **Goal: Get a full accuracy and be able to write the rhythm done.**

Task: Mocking ear training in this period with sight-reading can help student consolidate their knowledge. The teacher should make sure that the students must get all the aspects in the syllabus.

Sight Reading: **Goal: Master the articulation with in-class demonstration.**

Task: The last two weeks should be folks on the details of the materials, such as articulation. No requirement of the time of practice, so they can practice at home.

### 1 week before

Technical Tests: **Goal: Meet the requirement in the mock.**

Task: Conduct a final mock exam, focusing on the flow of performance. This week should be less intense and focus on the flow of everything.
Etudes: <b>Goal: Meet the perfect etudes' scores.</b>
Task: The practice of the two pieces should be included with the technical test.
Repertoire: <b>Goal: Polish well according to the peer.</b>
Task: In the mock exams, you may use one in-person session and one online session to mock the exam. The main purpose is to help you relax in the exam, so in this period, putting your mindset in the right place is the most important thing.
Ear Tests: <b>Be able to relate the specific issue to the practice.</b>
Task: The last week should be focused on the general overview of everything. If you are not good at once specific component, you should be working on that before the exam.
Sight Reading: <b>Goal: Be able to demonstrate the material with all the details.</b>
Task: Use mock exams to simulate real one, which should be involved with sight reading materials that prepared by the teacher and given them 24 hours before the mock.