MTB Grade 2
Bass Guitar

MUSIC TEACHERS' BOARD

Section One: Recital (75 marks)

Select Three pieces from the following list (25 marks each)

As an alternative to the pieces below, candidates may perform up to 3 free choice pieces. For guidance on free choice click here. Contemporary syllabuses cover a range of styles including Rock, Pop, Jazz, Latin etc.

Composer/Artist	Title	Book/Cat. Ref	Publisher/ Buy Here
Ben E King	Stand By Me	SMD92960	sheetmusicdirect.com
Pink Floyd	Money (first 2 mins only)	SMD51233	sheetmusicdirect.com
Gorillaz	Feel Good Inc (first 1:22)	SMD92948	sheetmusicdirect.com
The Killers	When You Were Young (first verse and chorus)	SMD 65179	sheetmusicdirect.com
Gnarls Barkley	Crazy (first verse and chorus)	SMD87158	sheetmusicdirect.com
Louis Armstrong	What a Wonderful World	Tomplay	tomplay.com
The Beatles	Roxanne	Tomplay	tomplay.com
Ed Sheeran	Another One Bites the Dust	Tomplay	tomplay.com

Tomplay pieces often include accompaniments and can be purchased individually using the link next to each piece or via a discounted subscription for MTB teachers/learners. To learn more about Tomplay and the subscription click here.

Technical Exercises (25 marks)

Prepare all the technical exercises required for this grade which can be found on the next page

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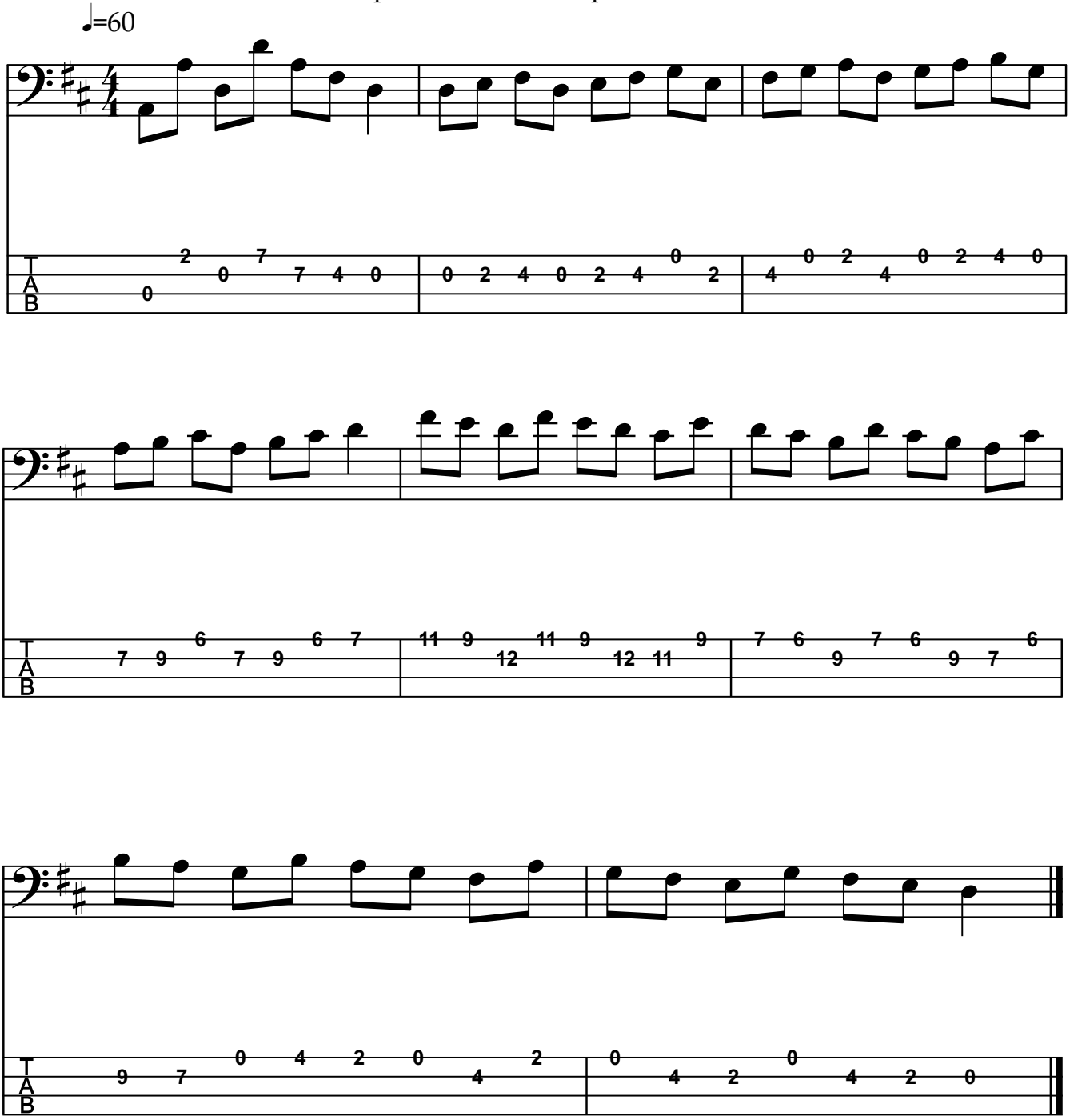
Technical Exercises

Technical Exercise 1

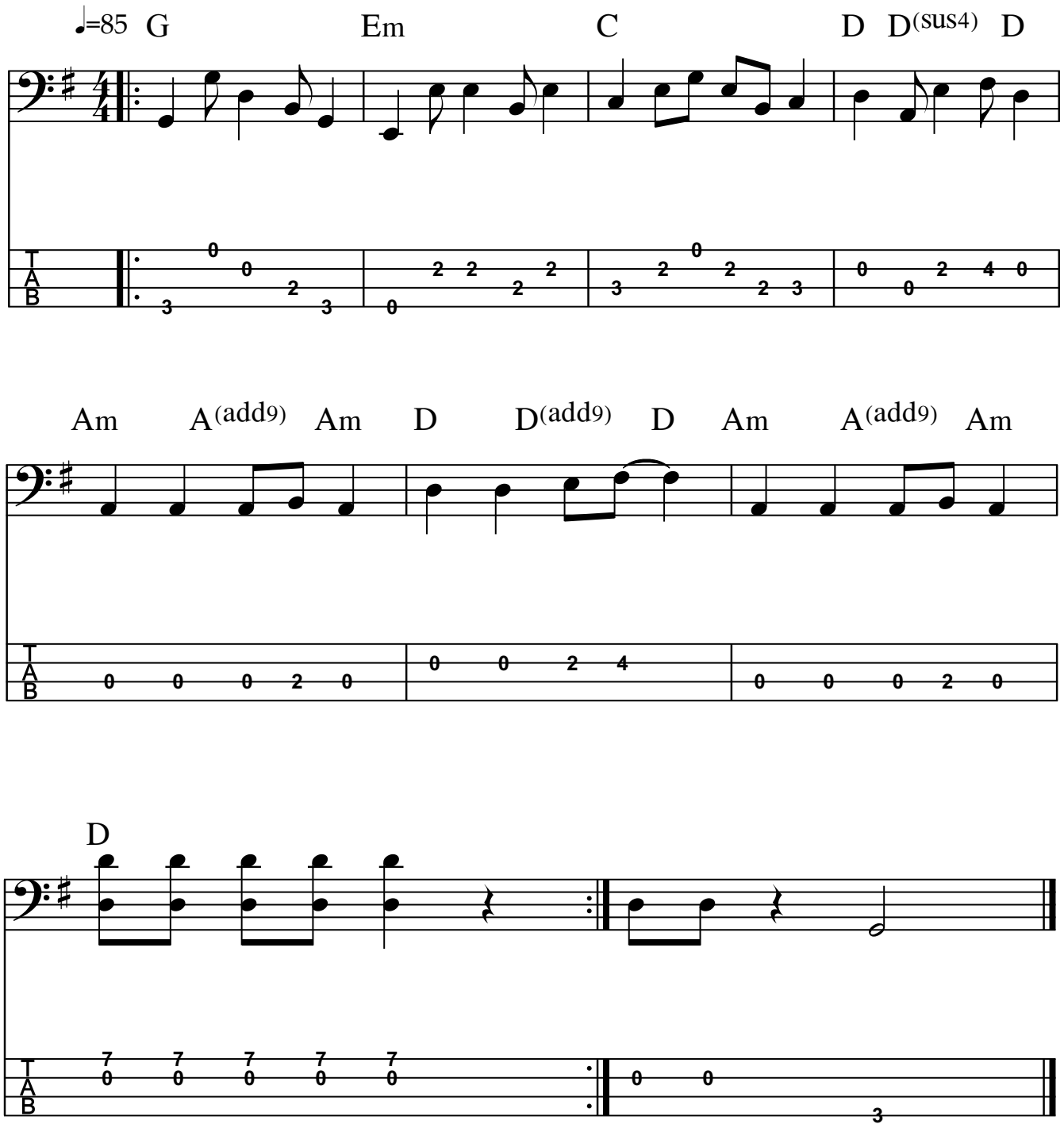
This piece may be played with or without an audible metronome click.

The tablature positions are to be presented as written.



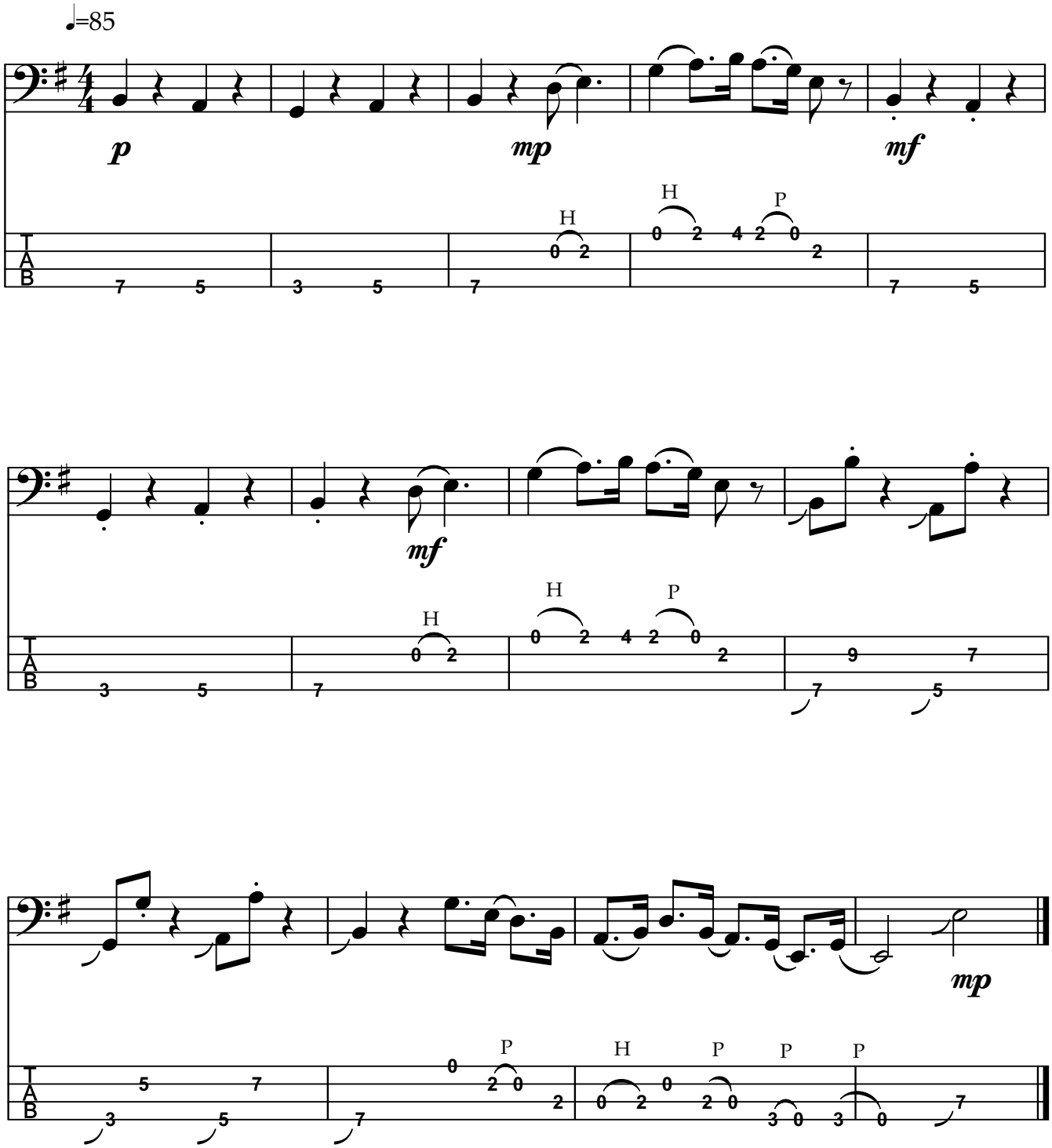
Technical Exercise 2

For the exam, only the bass part is to be played but you may wish to practise this along with the chords shown to appreciate the role of the bass. This may be played with or without an audible metronome click.



Technical Exercise 3

This study features dynamic changes, staccato/legato, slides (glissando) and hammer-ons, pull-offs (ligado). The tablature positions are to be followed. This may be played with or without an audible metronome click



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Syllabus Guidance

- The teacher is encouraged to speak to the candidate during the exam to put them at ease or to help them understand what is being requested. For more guidance on conducting/taking the exam click here.
- The recording should not be turned off at any point during the exam until all elements of the assessment have been completed. For more recording advice click here.
- For Practical Grades follow the above syllabus requirements. To learn about Performance Grade requirements please click here.
- To learn more about how our exams are marked visit our Marking Criteria Page here.

Recital Guidance - Practical & Performance Grades:

- Repeats are optional for MTB Exams, however, they are encouraged as they are often structurally important and can offer opportunities to display greater dynamic and expressive variation.
- All D.C. and D.S. marks should be observed (unless the syllabus specifies otherwise).
- The candidate should introduce each piece they are about to perform by stating its title.
- The teacher may help the candidate tune up before the exam begins. This should be done before starting the recording.
- Recorded accompaniments are acceptable as an alternative to a live accompanist. Make sure it is played on a different device to the one recording the exam.
- The composer's dynamics, phrasing etc should be observed in the pieces. Any editorial markings may be altered to allow for a personal interpretation. Where a piece contains no, or only limited, dynamic and expressive markings, the candidate is encouraged to include their own additional dynamic or expressive elements.
- Where a candidate presents Free Choice repertoire these must be of the correct grade standard. If such pieces fall below the required grade standard then examiners may reflect this in their marking. Free Choice Guidance can be found here.
- Candidates wishing to submit 2 or more pieces with Jazz improvisation may do so as part of our free choice options, these will be marked by a Jazz specialist who will normally specialise in that section of instruments (i.e. Wind, Brass etc).

Technical & Musicianship Guidance - Practical Grades:

- The tempi given for the technical section exercises (scales from memory/technical exercises etc.) are minimum speed requirements.
- There are no unprepared elements in an MTB exam. All Technical and Musicianship elements should be practised by the candidate prior to taking the exam.
- If the Listening Skills fall outside of the candidate's vocal range, they may be transposed. However, all exercises within a test must be transposed by the same interval.
- For the duet option, the teacher part may be performed by the teacher, another pupil or any suitable player on any instrument from the same family (wind/brass/strings etc) with octave transpositions made as necessary. Alternatively, a recording can be used for the teacher part during the exam.
- Duets set in the Musicianship section cannot to be used as recital pieces.

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