

MTB SaPa Pre-Grade Introductory Carnatic Violin

Section One: Recital (75 marks)

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

Composer/Artist	Title	Book/Cat. Ref	Publisher/ Buy Here
Tanya Ravidas	Play Pittu	MTB - SaPa - Carnatic Violin - Pre-Grade Introductory	MTB Bookshop
Mahati Subramaniam	Mala	MTB - SaPa - Carnatic Violin - Pre-Grade Introductory	MTB Bookshop
Mahati Subramaniam	Samam	MTB - SaPa - Carnatic Violin - Pre-Grade Introductory	MTB Bookshop
Dr Bindu Subramaniam	Acharya	MTB - SaPa - Carnatic Violin - Pre-Grade Introductory	MTB Bookshop

Section Two: Technical (25 marks)

Technical exercises are provided in two formats:

1. Indian Notation on [Page 2](#)
2. Western Notation on [Page 3](#)

Candidates may prepare for the recital pieces and technical exercises using the notation system of their choice (Indian or Western)

Syllabus Guidance can be found on [Page 4](#)

Technical Exercises

Ragam: Shankarabharanam
Talam: Adi | 65 beats per minute

Arohanam: S R₂ G₃ M₁ P D₂ N₃ Ś
Avarohanam: Ś N₃ D₂ P M₁ G₃ R₂ S

Exercise 1

S R G M | P D | N Ś || Ś N D P | M G | R S ||

Exercise 2

S R S R | S R | G M || S R G M | P D | N Ś ||
Ś N Ś N | Ś N | D P || Ś N D P | M G | R S ||

Exercise 3

S R G S | R G | S R || S R G M | P D | N Ś ||
Ś N D Ś | N D | Ś N || Ś N D P | M G | R S ||

Exercise 4

S R G M | S R | G M || S R G M | P D | N Ś ||
Ś N D P | Ś N | D P || Ś N D P | M G | R S ||

These exercises are called *Saralai Varisais*. They are basic exercises that introduce the *saptaswaram* (*sapta* - seven; *swaram* - notes) of music.

Note: These exercises may be performed in Shankarabharanam or Mayamalavagaula.

Syllabus Guidance

- The teacher, at the exam centre, is encouraged to speak to the candidate during the exam to put them at ease and to help them understand what is being requested. For more guidance on conducting/taking the exam, please [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, please [click here](#).
- For Practical Grades, follow the syllabus requirements mentioned above. To learn about the requirements for Performance Grades, please [click here](#).
- To learn more about how our exams are assessed, visit our Marking Criteria page [here](#).
- Any suitable fingerings may be used for pieces and scales. However, technical exercises must be played using the marked fingerings, where indicated.

Recital Guidance - Practical & Performance Grades:

- Repeats (of sections or lines marked to be played again) are optional for MTB exams; however, they are encouraged, as they are often structurally important and can offer opportunities to display greater dynamics and expressive variation.
- The candidate should introduce each piece they are about to perform by stating its title and *ragam*.
- The teacher may help the candidate with tuning before the exam begins. This should be done before the recording starts.
- Recorded accompaniments may be used instead of a live accompanist. Ensure that the accompaniment is played on a different device from the one used for recording the exam.

Technical & Musicianship Guidance - Practical Grades:

- The tempi indicated for the exercises and pieces are suggested guidelines. Students may perform at a slightly faster or slower pace based on their comfort and ability.
- MTB exams do not include any unprepared elements; candidates should practise all the technical and musicianship elements thoroughly before the exam.
- If the exercises in the Listening Skills fall outside the candidate's range, they may be transposed. However, all exercises within a test must be transposed by the same interval.