Strategies to Support Engaging with the Practical

Possible strategies for you and your students when engaging with the learning for the Practical Examination. They are not exhaustive or prescriptive.

Student Part

Strategy 1: As a learning activity in class and/or home, invite students to input the music of their part into your chosen notational software. Create a task inviting the student to listen back to their prepared track and describe the performance techniques and interpretation needed for this piece.

Strategy 2: For groupwork, invite students to collaborate on the score identifying musical highlights (CBA2) and agreeing their individual roles for the final group performance.

Strategy 3: As a learning activity in class and/or home, invite students to record an audio/video of themselves performing their piece using their chosen audio/video software. Invite students, solo and/or group, to listen back to their performance(s) and complete a worksheet critiquing their performance.

Strategy 4: Invite students to engage with relevant Digital Learning Technologies to self-direct their own learning. For example, *Solfeg.io* for practicing their songs, *Smule* to work with backing tracks, *Amazing Slow Downer* to help students work on perfecting techniques and skills, *Guitar Tuna* for help tuning instruments, etc.
See *Apps to Support the Integrated Nature of Learning* for further ideas.

Strategy 5: Invite students to maintain a reflective diary. This will also help students focus on different aspects of their performance.

Accompaniments

Strategy 1: Input the accompaniment as a 2-track score into your chosen notational software. Export as an MP3 and share with your students to scaffold further practise with the accompaniment part.

Strategy 2: Check if your school electric piano has a USB input. While playing the accompaniment part, record direct onto the USB and share/upload with your students.

Strategy 3: Record the accompaniment using external hardware such as a microphone, audio interface and device.
See *Guide to Set up an Audio Interface* and *How to Record Audio*.

Unprepared Tests

Strategy 1: Have a bank of unprepared tests on your school's Virtual Learning Platform. Create your own unprepared tests using notational software, export to MP3, and PDF where relevant and share/upload with your students.
See *How to Export an MP3* and *How to Create an Unprepared Sight-reading Test for Guitar/Ukulele*.

Strategy 2: Direct students to the published samples of unprepared tests available at
State Examinations Commission > Examinations Material > Music - Practicals.