

## Carnatic Veena Grade Examination - Syllabus

### Pre-Grade

#### PRACTICAL

Unit 1	Sarali Varisai-s in Māyāmālavagauḷa rāga as plain notes, in Three Speeds, with Sruti
Unit 2	Awareness of Plucking techniques – using the Tāḷa strings while playing
Unit 3	Reckoning Ādi Tāla and Rūpaka Tāḷa in Catuśra Naḍai, in Three Speeds, orally
Unit 4	To play a simple Devotional song or bhajan or Namavali
Unit 5	To sing the Above with Tāḷa

( **Note** : No Theory Exam for Pre Grade)

### Grade - 1

#### PRACTICAL

Unit 1	Jhanta Varisai-s in Māyāmālavagauḷa rāga as plain notes, in Three Speeds, with Sruti
Unit 2	Dhattu Varisai-s in Māyāmālavagauḷa rāga as plain notes, in Three Speeds, with Sruti
Unit 3	Tāra Stāyi Varisai-s in Māyāmālavagauḷa rāga as plain notes, in Three Speeds, with Sruti
Unit 4	Mandara Stāyi Varisai-s in Māyāmālavagauḷa rāga as plain notes, in Three Speeds, with Sruti
Unit 5	Following Alankāram-s in Māyāmālavagauḷa rāga <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chathusrajathi Eka Thalam (3 Speeds)</li><li>• Chathusrajathi Rupaka Thalam (3 Speeds)</li><li>• Tisrajathi Tripata Thalam (3 Speeds)</li></ul>

## THEORY

Unit 1	Introduction to the various systems in Indian Music
Unit 2	Nāda and Śruti, Pitch and its connotations
Unit 3	Saptasvaras, The twelve svarasthāna-s and Sixteen Svara Nomenclature
Unit 4	Three Sthāyis, symbols used in basic notations
Unit 5	Technical Terms - Tāla, Naḍai, Aṅga, Āvartana, ṣadaṅga-s, Uttarāṅga and Pūrvāṅga

## Grade - 2

### PRACTICAL

Unit 1	Following Alankāram-s in Māyāmālavagauḷa and Śaṅkarābharaṇa rāga <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chatusrajathi Matya Thalam (3 Speeds)</li><li>• Chatusrajathi dhruva Thalam (3 Speeds)</li><li>• Misrajathi jampa Thalam (3 Speeds)</li><li>• Kandajathi Ata Thalam(3 speed)</li></ul>
Unit 2	Gītams – Any Four (2 in Malahari and 2 in any other Rāga)
Unit 3	Nōṭṭusvara Sāhityas – 2
Unit 4	Tiruppugaḷ or Devotional Song – 1
Unit 5	To sing the Above with Tāla and Sāhitya

## THEORY

Unit 1	Musical Forms - Alaṅkāram and Gītam
Unit 2	The 3 main aṅga-s; Sapta tāla-s; Pañca-Jāti; Jāti-Bhēda; Thirty Five tāla-s
Unit 3	Parts of the Veena – Resonators -Kuḍam and Soraikkāi, Finger

	board, Frets, Pegs, Bridge(Kuthirai and Meru), Nāgapāśa, Sound Post, Nāda Randhra, Yāḷi
Unit 4	The strings on the Veena – Main and Tāḷa strings, tuning and playing techniques
Unit 5	Short life-sketch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purandaradāsar</li> <li>• Trinity – Śyāma Sāstri, Tyāgarāja and Muttusvāmi Dikṣitar</li> <li>• Arunagirinathar</li> </ul>

### Grade - 3

#### PRACTICAL

Unit 1	Lakshana Gitam - 1 (Any Language)
Unit 2	Jatisvaram – 1 ; Svarajati – 1
Unit 3	Ādi tāḷa varṇam - Any 1, to be rendered as both Svāra and Sāhitya
Unit 4	Divyanāma Kīrtanam – 1 ; Tēvāram – 1
Unit 5	Reckoning the Ādi tāḷa in Catuśra naḍai, with shifting of the Eduppu

#### THEORY

Unit 1	<b>Musical Forms:</b> Jatisvaram, Svarajati,
Unit 2	Types of Varṇam-s - Tāna, pada, cauka, daru and Rāgamālika
Unit 3	Short Life sketch of Tēvāra Mūvar – Tiruñāna Sambandar, Tirunāvukkarasar, Sundaramūrti Nāyanār
Unit 4	Tyāgarāja and his disciples
Unit 5	Classification of Musical Instruments – String (Tata vādyā), Wind (Suśīra vādyā), Metallic (Ghana vādyā) and Percussion

	(Avanaddha Vādyā)
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Grade - 4

PRACTICAL

Unit 1	Alankaram – all 7 In Kalyāṇi & Karaharapriya Ragas in 3 speeds
Unit 2	Any 2 Ādi Tāḷa Varṇam from the prescribed ragas rendered in 2 speeds (Śaṅkarābharaṇam, Hamsadvani, Mōhanam and Kalyāṇi)
Unit 3	Divya Prabhandam – 1 Thiruvasakiyam or Ramadasar Kriti – 1
Unit 4	Thiru Aruṭpa - 1 or Annamacharya Kriti Patriotic Song -1
Unit 5	Kirtanam - Any 3 from Prescribed Ragas and Composers  Ragas : Māyāmāḷava gauḷa, Mōhanam, Śaṅkarābharaṇam, Ārabhi, Hamsadvani, Kalyāṇi,  Composers : Tyāgarāja, Swathi Tirunal, Muthu Thandavar, Arunachala Kavirayar, Papanasam sivan

THEORY

Unit 1	The 12 alwars and a Short life-sketch of Andal
Unit 2	Muttusvāmi Dikṣita and his disciples
Unit 3	Study of Musical Instruments: Nadasvaram and Tavil
Unit 4	Rāga Classification scheme - Janaka, Janya, Vakra, Varjya, Upāṅga and Bhāṣāṅga
Unit 5	The 72 Mēḷa Scheme of Veṅkaṭamakhin

Grade - 5

PRACTICAL

Unit 1	Ādi Tāḷa Varṇam - Any 2 from rāga-s given - Sāvēri, Kāmbhōji, kalyāṇi, Ābhōgi
Unit 2	Jatisvaram – Vasanta
Unit 3	Kirtanam - Any 4 from Prescribed Ragas and Composers <b>Ragas</b> : Hamsadhwani, Madhyamavathi, Kalyani, Bilahari, Harikambhodhi, Karahara priya <b>Composers</b> : Thyagarajar, Swathi Tirunal, Muthu Thandavar, Arunachala Kavirayar, Papanasam sivan, Dikṣitar, Syamasastri, Gopala Krishna Bharathi, Neelakanta Sivan, Ramaswamy Sivan
Unit 4	Tiruppāvai - 1 (or) Tiruvempāvai – 1
Unit 5	Subramanya Bharati (or) Bhārati Dāsan Song – 1

THEORY

Unit 1	Musical Forms – Krti, Rāgamālika
Unit 2	Study of Tala and important elements of Tala Dasa Pranā-s.
Unit 3	Śyāma Śāstri and his lineage
Unit 4	Introduction to Paṇṇ – Tamil Tradition
Unit 5	Study of Musical Instruments: Tanpura, Vīṇa, Violin

Grade - 6

PRACTICAL

Unit 1	Ādi Tala Varṇam Any – 2 ( <b>Ragas</b> : Todi, Pantuvarali, Sriragam, Begada)
Unit 2	Kaṇḍa jati Aṭa Tāḷa Varṇam - 1 (Bhairavi)
Unit 3	Kritis - 2 (From Prescribed Ragas and Composers) Ragas: Bhairavi, Lathangi, Thodi, Darbar, Sahana

	Composers: Thyagarajar, Swathi Tirunal, Muthu Thandavar, Arunachala Kavirayar, Papanasam Sivan, Dikshidar, Syamasastri, Gopala Krishna bharathi, Nīlakaṇṭha Sivan, Ramaswamy sivan, mayuram viswanatha sastrī
Unit 4	Aṣṭapadi -1 ; Kāvaḍi Cindu – 1; Mīrā Bhajan – 1
Unit 5	Kalpana Svaram for any 5 from list below : Ragas: Mohanam, Sankarabharanam, Hamsadhwani, Kalyani, Bhairavi, Arabhi, Pantuvarali, Karaharapriya

## THEORY

Unit 1	Kalpita and Manodharma Saṅgīta ; Musical Forms – Rāga Ālāpana, Kalpana Svaram, Neraval, Ragam-Tanam-Pallavi
Unit 2	Rāga Lakṣaṇa and Sañcara-s for – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mōhanam</li> <li>• Ābhōgi</li> <li>• Kalyāni</li> <li>• Śaṅkarabharaṇa</li> </ul>
Unit 3	Short Life History of – Jayadeva; Nārāyaṇa Tīrta, Svāti Tirunāl, ūthukkādu Veṅkaṭa Kavi
Unit 4	Study of Musical Instruments: Flute, Mridangam
Unit 5	Technical Terms – Eduppu, Decorative Aṅga-s, Ciṭṭa Svaram, Madyamakāla Sāhitya, Samaṣṭi Caraṇa, Svarākṣara

## Grade - 7

### PRACTICAL

Unit 1	Kandajathi Ata Tāḷa varnam - 1 (Kalyani or Kanada)
Unit 2	Ragamalika – 1 ; Pada Varṇam – 1 ; Thillāna – 1

Unit 3	Thyagaraja pancharatnam – 2 (One Ghana Rāga and one Kṣētra)
Unit 4	Ramadasar Krti - 1 (or) Meenatchi ammai pillai Tamil -1 Abhang - 1 (or) Kavimani Desiga Vinayagam Pillai – 1
Unit 5	Niraval and kalpana swaram for any 4 ragas from given ragas <b>Ragas:</b> Mohanam, Śankarabharanam, Hamsadhwani, Kalyani, Bhairavi, Arabhi, Pantuvarali, Karaharapriya, Todi

## THEORY

Unit 1	Dasavidha Gamaka-s
Unit 2	Ragalakshanas of Kharaharapriya, Bhairavi, Khambhoji, Todi, Pantuvaralāi, Purvikalyani
Unit 3	Musical Forms: Padam, Javalāi, Tillana, Ragamalika
Unit 4	Notable Vainikas – Muttusvāmi Dīkṣitar, Bāṇi-s- Dhanammal style, Mysore Style, Āndra style, Karaikkuḍi style, Travancore style, S.Balachander
Unit 5	Kutcheri Paddhati

## Grade - 8

### PRACTICAL

Unit 1	Any Padam -1 ; Javali -1
Unit 2	Śyāma Śāstri Svarajati -1
Unit 3	Bhajan – 1; Group Krti of Muttusvami Dīkṣita -1
Unit 4	Ragam, Thanam, Pallavi -1
Unit 5	Raga Alapana, Niraval and Karpna Swara for any 3 ragas from already covered ragas

## THEORY

Unit 1	Group kritis
Unit 2	Introduction to Hindustani Music, Western Music, Folk Music
Unit 3	Comparative Study of Carnatic and Hindustani Ragas
Unit 4	Ragalakshana of - Darbar, Bilahari, Kēdāragauḷa, Suruṭṭi, ānandabhairavi, Sahana, Saveri
Unit 5	Mathematics in Music – Kōvai, Kanakku-s, Porutham-s