



ORCHESTRAL EXCERPTS

We have chosen a few short sections (or excerpts) from next year's repertoire, and in some cases from other standard orchestral repertoire, for you to play along with your own pieces at audition.

They are widely used in professional orchestral auditions and are a very important part of your audition.

They are chosen to show the panel different aspects of your playing – demonstrating your technical ability or how you play a lyrical passage, for example.

Here are some tips to help you:

- **DON'T STRUGGLE ON YOUR OWN** – take your excerpts to your teacher and ask them to work on them with you.
- **LISTEN TO RECORDINGS** – listen to as many as you can. Listen to all of the piece and not just your excerpt in isolation – get a feel for the piece. YouTube is a great place to find these.
- **PLAY ALONG** – if you are struggling with the rhythm or style, play along with a few different recordings.
- **LOOK AT THE SCORE** – you can find the scores and parts on IMSLP <https://imslp.org/>
- **PLAY FOR OTHER PEOPLE** – get used to playing your excerpts in front of people
- **RECORD YOURSELF** – try recording yourself and listening for things like tuning and tone etc
- **USE A METRONOME** – if the rhythm is tricky, practise with a metronome
- **DON'T FORGET DYNAMICS!**
- **DON'T WORRY ABOUT WRONG NOTES** – the panel are more interested in the rhythm, tempo and style than they are about the odd wrong note – forget about it and concentrate on the overall performance.
- **RELAX!** - The panel want you to do well and will encourage and support you. They will hear a huge variety of interpretations over the course of the auditions – don't worry – just do your best and try to enjoy the experience!