



PRSSV World Music and Dance Examination  
Sample Paper  
Carnatic Vocal - Grade 5

# SAMPLE PAPER - I



**PRSSV World Music and Dance Examination**  
**Sample Paper**  
**Carnatic Vocal - Grade 5**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 1: True or False**

Write 'T' if you think the statement is true and 'F' if you think it is false. If you want to change your answer, cross out neatly and re-write next to it.

		Answer (T / F)	Office use only
1	Sangeet means music and dance		2
2	Alankarams are composed only in Khanda Chapu Tala		2
3	Aksharakala is the time duration of a beat		2
4	Vilamba Laya means slow tempo		2
5	R G M D and N are all Vikruthi Swaras		2
6	There are 2 Angas in Adi Tala		2
7	Purandaradasa composed in Kannada language		2
8	Sankeerna Jathi Triputa Tala and Khanda Jathi Ata Tala have the same number of beats		2
9	Janaka Ragas and Janya Ragas are the same		2
10	Mohanam is a Janaka Raga		2
11	Tyagaraja was one of the trinities of Carnatic Music		2
12	There is only one variety of Geetham		2
13	Purandaradasa composed in Kannada language		2

**Section 2: Multiple choice**

Write the letter of the correct answer in the box. If you want to change your answer, cross out neatly and re-write next to it.

		Answer (a/b/c)	Office use only
14	Sarali Varisais are composed in	(a) Adi Tala (b) Mishra Chapu Tala (c) Rupaka Tala	2
15	How many Talangas are there in a Tala?	(a) 1 (b) 3 (c) 6	2
16	SRGM   GR   SRGR   SRGM    Identify the Talam for this Alankaram phrase.	(a) Dhruva Talam (b) Eka Talam (c) Jhampa Talam	2
17	The name of the music we practice is called...	(a) Hindustani Music (b) Jazz (c) Carnatic Music	2
18	What is a Ragam?	(a) A set of notes tuned to a melody (b) Pitch (c) A musical note	2
19	N is called....	(a) Dhaivatam (b) Nishadham (c) Madhyamam	2
20	How many beats does Mishra Jathi Triputa Tala have?	(a) 6 (b) 11 (c) 2	2
21	What is the name for the Swarasthana D1?	(a) Shuddha Dhaivatam (b) Chaturshruti Rishabham (c) Panchamam	2

**PRSSV World Music and Dance Examination**  
**Sample Paper**  
**Carnatic Vocal - Grade 5**

22	What does Konnakol mean?	(a) Spoken rhythmic language of percussion instruments. (b) Laya	2
23	What does Avartana mean?	(a) Cycle of a Tala (b) Beats (c) Nadai	2
24	What is the Aksharakalam for S,,,,, ?	(a) 10 (b) 6 (c) 3	2
25	Which from the following is a Janaka Raga?	(a) Mayamalavagaula (b) Bilahari (c) Mohanam	2
26	'TAKADIMITAKATAKITA' Which Nadai is the above pattern in?	(a) 9 (Sankeerna) (b) 5 (Khanda) (c) 4 (Chaturshra)	2
27	Which Tala has the most number of Drutams?	(a) Dhruva (b) Rupakam (c) Triputa	2
28	How many varieties of Geethams are there?	(a) 4 (b) 3 (c) 5	2
29	Which Raga is the following Arohana S R1 G2 M1 P D1 N2 S of?	(a) Sankarabharanam (b) Todi (c) Mayamalavagaula	2
30	Which instrument did Lalgudi Jayaraman play on?	(a) Violin (b) Veena (c) Viola	2
31	Which language did Tyagaraja compose in?	(a) Tamil (b) Telugu (c) Malayalam	2
32	What is the main melodic instrument used to accompany Carnatic Vocal?	(a) Violin (b) Veena (c) Nagaswaram	2
33	How many beats does Sankeerna Jathi Ata Tala have?	(a) 22 (b) 25 (c) 20	2

**Section 3 Fill in the answer**

Office  
use  
only

34	Sahitya means _____ in music.	2
35	Khanda Jathi Triputa Talam is a cycle of _____ beats.	2
36	The higher 7 notes is called _____	2

**PRSSV World Music and Dance Examination**  
**Sample Paper**  
**Carnatic Vocal - Grade 5**

37	Notate Alankaram phrases in the following Talas  Triputa Tala _____  Jhampa Tala _____  Ata Tala _____	4
38	Describe the thirty five Tala scheme.	4
39	Give the life sketch of Purandaradasa.  <i>NOTE: Answer this question on lined paper provided</i>	6
40	Tiruppugazhs are composed in _____ language.	2
41	Give the names of any two composers of Geethams. i) _____ ii) _____	4
42	The Mudra of Muthuswami Dikshitar is _____	2
43	Describe the Ragalakshna for Mohanam.  <i>NOTE: Answer this question on lined paper provided.</i>	5
44	Give the life sketch of Lalgudi Jayaraman.  <i>NOTE: Answer this question on lined paper provided.</i>	6
45	Notate one Geetham with all the appropriate notation symbols.  <i>NOTE: Answer this question on lined paper provided.</i>	7

**PRSSV World Music and Dance Examination**  
**Sample Paper**  
**Carnatic Vocal - Grade 5**

**Section 4: Answer all the following questions on lined paper provided.**

**NOTE:**

All notations must be completed without the use of repetition signs or using the times symbol e.g. X 3  
All notations must be complete i.e. have all the appropriate symbols and all Matras numbered.

**Answer all the following questions:-**

46. Describe the structure of a Varnam and its varieties with examples. (20 marks)

47. Explain any 2 of the following with examples where applicable. Each question carries 5 marks. (10 marks)

- i). Describe the terms Janka and Janya Ragas with examples.
- ii). Describe the 72 Melakarta scheme and name the twelve Chakras.
- iii). Explain the concept of Vivadi Swaras and Ragas.
- iv). Describe the structure and characteristics of Geetham and its varieties.

48. Describe the Ragalakshana for Sankarabharanam. (10 marks)

**Answer ONE of the following questions. Each question carries 15 marks:-**

49. Describe the shapes, parts and playing systems of Mridangam and its role as an accompanying instrument.

50. Give the life sketch of TR Mahalingam or N Ramani.

51. Give the life sketch of Shyama Sastri.

*Note: This paper carries 20% of the total marks for the Grade 5 Level 2 examination.*

# SAMPLE PAPER - II



**PRSSV World Music and Dance Examination**  
**Sample Paper**  
**Carnatic Vocal - Grade 5**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 1: True or False**

Write 'T' if you think the statement is true and 'F' if you think it is false. If you want to change your answer, cross out neatly and re-write next to it.

Answer (T / F)	Office use only
----------------	-----------------

1	Sarali Varisais are composed in Adi Tala.		2
2	There are a total of 5 Talangas in a Tala.		2
3	Swara means placement of a musical note.		2
4	The name of the music we practice is called Carnatic Music.		2
5	Alankaras are composed in 10 Talas.		2
6	Druta Laya means slow tempo.		2
7	Electronic and Acoustic Tamburas are the same.		2
8	Lalgudi Jayaraman played the Vina.		2
9	There are three varieties of Geethams.		2
10	Sankirna Jathi Ata Tala has a cycle of 22 beats.		2
11	Tyagaraja composed in Malayalam language.		2
12	Dhruva Tala has the most number of Drutam.		2
13	Mohanam is a Janaka Raga.		2

**Section 2: Multiple choice**

Write the letter of the correct answer in the box. If you want to change your answer, cross out neatly and re-write next to it.

Answer (a / b / c)	Office use only
--------------------	-----------------

14	What does Sangeet mean?	(a) Dance (b) Music and Dance (c) Art		2
15	What is an Aksharakala?	(a) Time duration of a beat (b) Time duration of a note (c) Time duration of a cycle		2
16	How many Angas are there in Adi Tala?	(a) 3 (b) 1 (c) 2		2
17	What does Jathi mean?	(a) Section that determines the number of counts in Laghu (b) Cycle of beats (c) Tempo		2
18	What does Nadai mean?	(a) Pulse/Gait (b) Tempo (c) Beats		2
19	Which part of the world is Hindustani music practiced in?	(a) Sri Lanka (b) North India (c) South India		2
20	What is Mandara Sthayi?	(a) Lower register of notes (b) Higher register of notes (c) Middle register of notes		2
21	Misra Jathi Triputa Tala is a cycle of how many beats?	(a) 10 (b) 11 (c) 14		2
22	What is the value of Sankeerna Jathi?	(a) 9 (b) 3 (c) 7		2

**PRSSV World Music and Dance Examination**  
**Sample Paper**  
**Carnatic Vocal - Grade 5**

23	What does Sthayi mean?	(a) Octave/ register of a scale (b) Pitch (c) Tune	2
24	What does Solkattu mean?	(a) Spoken rhythmic language of percussion instruments (b) Composition (c) Rhythm	2
25	What is Druta laya?	(a) Medium fast tempo (b) Fast tempo (c) Slow tempo	2
26	Which Tala is the following Alankara phrase in? SRG   SR   GM	a) Dhruva Tala b) Tripura Tala c) Rupaka Tala	2
27	Which language are Tiruppugazhs composed in?	a) Sanskrit b) Tamil c) Telugu	2
28	Which from the following is an alternate name for Janaka Raga?	a) Sampurna b) Janya c) Bhashanga	2
29	What category from the following does Raga Mohanam come under?	a) Janya b) Janaka c) Melakarta	2
30	How many Nadais are there in Carnatic music?	a) 2 b) 1 c) 5	2
31	Which from the following is the Arohanam for Raga Mohanam?	a) S R2 G2 P D2 S b) S R1 G1 M1 P D1 S c) S R2 G2 M2 P N1 S	2
32	What is the Aksharakala for S, , , , , ?	a) 8 b) 9 c) 7	2
33	Who from the following composed Geethams?	a) Tyagaraja b) Purandaradasa c) Papanasam Sivan	2

**Section 3: Fill in the answer.**

**Fill in the blanks with appropriate answers.**

Office use only

34	Jaru means _____ in music.	2
35	Identify the Talas from the following Alankara phrases. SRGR   SR   SRGM    _____ SRGSRSR   G   M ,    _____ SRGM   GR   SRGR   SRGM    _____	6



**PRSSV World Music and Dance Examination**  
**Sample Paper**  
**Carnatic Vocal - Grade 5**

36	Gamaka means _____ in music.	2
37	Vilamba Laya means _____ tempo.	2
38	Describe the different types of Tamburas and machines that provide drones for singers.  <i>NOTE: Answer this question on lined paper provided.</i>	5
39	Give the life sketch of Palghat Mani Iyer.  <i>NOTE: Answer this question on lined paper provided.</i>	6
40	Write the symbols for the following Tala Angas. Laghu _____ Drutam _____ Anudrutam _____	6
41	Tisra Jathi Rupaka Tala is a cycle of _____ beats.	2
42	Avartana means _____ of a Tala.	6
43	Describe the Ragalakshana for Mayamalavagaula.  <i>NOTE: Answer this question on lined paper provided.</i>	6
44	Give an introduction to the Carnatic Music Trinities including their names, Mudras and the languages they composed in.  <i>NOTE: Answer this question on lined paper provided.</i>	5
45	Give the life sketch of MS Gopalakrishnan.  <i>NOTE: Answer this question on lined paper provided.</i>	6

**PRSSV World Music and Dance Examination  
Sample Paper  
Carnatic Vocal - Grade 5**

**Section 4: Answer all the following questions on lined paper provided.**

**NOTE:**

All notations must be completed without the use of repetition signs or using the times symbol e.g. X 3  
All notations must be complete i.e. have all the appropriate symbols and all Matras numbered.

**Answer all the following questions:-**

46. Describe the 72 Melakarta scheme and name the twelve Chakras including the concept of Vivadi Swaras and Ragas. (20 marks)

47. Explain any 2 of the following with examples where applicable. Each question carries 5 marks. (10 marks)

- i). Describe the terms Janka and Janya Ragas with examples.
- ii). Name the varieties of Varnams with examples.
- iii). Describe, compare and contrast the structure and characteristics of Jathiswaram and Swarajathi.
- iv). Describe the structure and characteristics of Geetham and its varieties.

48. Notate one Jathiswaram with all the appropriate notation symbols. (10 marks)

**Answer ONE of the following questions. Each question carries 15 marks:-**

49. Describe the shapes, parts and playing systems of Mridangam and its role as an accompanying instrument.

50. Describe the Ragalakshana for Hindolam.

51. Give the life sketch of Shyama Sastri.

*Note: This paper carries 20% of the total marks for the Grade 5 Level 2 examination.*