

## Session #1 (October 2006)

### PRAXIS II and YOU: Overview of the Music Tests for State Licensure

*What is PRAXIS II?*

The PRAXIS II are Subject Assessment Area Tests often required for certification/licensure with a state. They measure knowledge in a particular subject area, in addition to specifics of teaching skills and strategies within a particular subject.

In music, there are three (3) tests that the Educational Testing Services have devised. However, the State of Tennessee only requires two (2) of these assessments in the PRAXIS II series for licensure in K-12 Music.

*Which PRAXIS Tests does Tennessee require for licensure for K-12 Music (Instrumental/General or Vocal/General)? What are the qualifying scores for each test?*

The PRAXIS tests that are required include:

1. PRAXIS II: Music Content & Knowledge; qualifying score is 150.
2. PRAXIS II: Music Concepts & Processes; qualifying score is 145.
3. PRAXIS II: Principles of Learning & Teaching (3 different tests; choose one)
  - a. PLT: Grades K-6; qualifying score is 155.
  - b. PLT: Grades 5-9; qualifying score is 154.
  - c. PLT: Grades 7-12; qualifying score is 159.

*Do I have to take all three PLT (Principles of Learning & Teaching Tests)?*

No, you do not! You may choose any one of the three (3) tests listed above. It is advisable that you choose the level about which you know the most.

*Will the CMENC/TMEA website carry review materials for PLT as well as the PRAXIS II Music Tests?*

No, the website will only carry information and review materials for the **music tests only**. Check out your university's College or Department of Education for information regarding the PLT and review sessions. Also, check out the [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis) for more information.

*What information is assessed in the Music Content Knowledge PRAXIS test?*

The Music Content Knowledge assesses basic musicianship (63%), music learning K-12 (31%), and professional practices (6%). Basic musicianship includes history and literature of music, music theory, and performance practices (typical music ensembles, principles of tone production, etc.). Music Learning, K-12 assesses content learned in various methods classes, such as sequencing learning and writing lessons. Other concepts may include pedagogical approaches (Orff, Kodaly, Dalcroze, Gordon, etc.), evaluation and assessment, and classroom management skills.

Professional practice questions refer to philosophical concerns in music education, knowledge of professional publications, ethics, and organizations within the field of music education.

*What is the format for the Music Content Knowledge Test?*

The test is two hours in length. One-third of the time is dedicated to responding to recorded examples, while the remaining time is dedicated to answering written questions. There are 135 multiple choice questions for the entire test.

*What is the format for the Music Concepts & Processes PRAXIS test?*

This test, one hour in length, consists of two essay questions. One question is dedicated to developing a lesson plan (with extension) in the area of General Music. The second question refers to the intended field of the person taking the test. In other words, a question will be dedicated to choral, band, or orchestra teaching. You will choose your question that matches your specialty field. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FOR ALL ENSEMBLES!**

*What information is assessed on the Concepts & Processes PRAXIS test?*

1. The elements used in teaching General Music: melody, harmony, rhythm, timbre, texture, and form
2. Teaching strategies and pedagogical approaches (Dalcroze, Kodaly, Orff, Gordon, Suzuki, etc.).
3. Specific titles of songs/music for use in the elementary music classroom, and repertoire from a variety of cultures and/or traditions.
4. Sequencing lesson and lesson planning (i.e., are you exhibiting a lesson, activities, and literature that are age-appropriate).

*What are the test dates for 2006-2007 Academic Year?*

The test dates for PRAXIS II are listed below. Please go to the ETS website for registration instructions and deadlines: [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis).

September 16, 2006

November 18, 2006

March 3, 2007

April 28, 2007

June 9, 2007

August 4, 2007