THE DMA MAJOR FIELD EXAM IN PERCUSSION

Part I. Listening
Standard “drop the needle-“ type test
Around 10 examples for each category
Students will write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) on each
Categories:
1. Percussion Ensemble
   Will focus on John Cage, Iannis Xenakis, and James Wood
2. Solo Marimba
   Will focus on standard repertoire
3. Solo Multiple-Percussion
   Will focus on standard repertoire

Part II. Percussion History
20 questions that will focus on the history of percussion music
Will deal primarily with the dates of composers and master percussion pieces
   Ex. Order ten composers by their date of birth
   Ex. Order fifteen percussion masterworks by their composition date

Part III. Pedagogy
Students will teach two 15-minute lessons (1 pitched, 1 non-pitched)
Will focus on large playing issues (identifying problems and fixing them)

Part IV. Performing
Two days prior to the exam, students will be given:
1. A short marimba piece (1-2 minutes)
2. A short multiple-percussion piece (1-2 minutes)
Students will then perform the works after the allotted amount of time

Source: Professor van Sice