

## E. Linearity

(Maximum points awarded: 5)

Competition disc examples: Track 17

**1. The proportion and relationship of all musical frequencies are examined at soft listening level (80 – 85 dB), medium or normal listening level (90 – 95 dB) and loud listening level (100 – 110 dB). Bass, midbass, midrange, and high frequencies should be relatively the same, from low to high volumes.**

**2. Track 17 is used by judge to score this test.**

Realism of Linearity Points Scoring	
1	Frequencies are not proportional as volume is increased or decreased.
2	Frequencies are somewhat proportional, but vary as volume is increased or decreased.
3	Frequencies are somewhat proportional, and vary slightly as volume is increased or decreased.
4	Frequencies are defined and proportional, and vary only slightly as volume is increased or decreased.
5	Frequencies are defined and proportional, and do not vary as volume is increased or decreased.

## F. Dynamics

(Maximum points awarded: 10)

Competition disc examples: Tracks 3, 17, 19, 25, 29

**1. The reproduction of dynamics is the element of musical expression relating to the degree of loudness or softness of a sound. The dynamic range pertains to the useable range of extremes between loud and soft portions of the reproduction. These differences should be smooth, transient, and accurate. No distortion will occur at either loud or soft portions of the reproduction.**

Realism of Dynamics Points Scoring	
1 – 2	Soft portions lack detail or are not at all apparent; attack is weak; decay is extremely inaccurate; distortion occurs at low to moderate (80-95 dB) levels. Transience from soft to loud levels is extremely unstable.
3 - 4	Soft portions lack detail; attack is weak; decay is inaccurate; distortion occurs at low to moderate (80-95 dB) levels. Transience from soft to loud levels is unstable.
5 – 6	Soft portions are not detailed; attack is weak; distortion occurs at peaks of 90 - 105 dB. Transience from soft to loud levels has peaks and/or dips.
7 – 8	Soft portions are detailed; attack is accurate; little distortion at peaks of 105 dB. Transience from soft to loud levels is accurate with very little perception of peaks and/or dips.
9 – 10	Soft portions are perfectly accurate; attack is accurate; no distortion occurring at peaks of up to 110 dB. Transience from soft to loud levels is accurate and has no peaks and/or dips.