

Commentary on candidate evidence

The evidence for this candidate has achieved the following marks for each question of this course assessment component.

(Please note the response below was provided by more than one candidate)

Section 1

Question 1(a)

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** because they have provided a clear and detailed answer which compares the use of quality and dynamics for two contrasting dance styles.

They make comparisons which made reference to the sharp and soft qualities of movement, the use of flowing and defined movements, centre of gravity and its role in the overall movement quality and the contrast between slow sustained and fast, high energetic movement.

The candidate makes four clear points of comparison providing detail to support their examples.

Question 1(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a limited response that compares the use of strength and flexibility in two contrasting dance styles.

The candidate's response was limited in providing comparisons for the dance styles. Where the candidate has compared the dance styles they lacked description and did not provide enough detail. For example, the candidate says 'In contemporary, strength is required in legs, arms and your back for the many changes in levels. In jazz, strength is essential in your legs for high elevated jumps.' This is a limited response which lacks comparison, detail and clarity.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** because they have provided a straightforward response explaining the importance of warm up and attire in relation to safe dance practice.

They give one straightforward example for warm up which discusses the muscles and joints being warmed up to provide a full range of movement to prevent injury. The other statements made are not supported by examples or impact in relation to safe dance practice. For example, the candidate says 'Carrying out a warm up is required for raising your heartbeat before starting any vigorous movements or exercise.' The candidate should go on to explain why after making this statement.

(2 marks). The candidate discusses attire in relation to footwear, clothing, jewellery and hair. The response given provided straight forward explanations. Although the candidate has provided a number of examples for this, they do not go in to enough detail for any of the examples to move in to the 3 mark bracket that requires some detail. (2 marks)

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **5 marks** because they provided a detailed description of the ways in which historical events have influenced the development of the chosen dance style.

The candidate makes reference to the roots of the dance style and how the Africans use of a low centre of gravity has influenced the style today. They discuss the jazz age and the influence of Charleston, lindy hop, ballet and modern dance. They made reference to the influence of music and how this has influenced the style and developed it in to a more theatre-based performance, and the final point made described the influence of more modern dance styles, including hip hop and commercial dance. The candidate describes three events in time which have had an influence on the dance style, its characteristics and steps.

The examples could have provided more clarity in either their descriptions of the events, or examples of their influence on the style to achieve the top bracket of 'clear' 'detailed' and 'insightful'.

Section 2

Question 4(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have provided a clear and detailed description of the mood and atmosphere.

The candidate correctly described the mood and atmosphere of Christopher Bruce's Swansong. They have given an example of the tense atmosphere when the prisoner is interrogated and the unsettling nerve-wracking atmosphere when the prisoner is being bullied and isolated.

Question 4(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they provided a straightforward explanation of how the use of costume is appropriate for the mood and atmosphere.

The candidate gives a straightforward explanation of the use of uniforms for each character and links this to power and authority however the relationship to the mood and atmosphere lacks detail therefore the candidate can only access 1 mark.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** because they give some explanation for the impact of the movements used to communicate the choreographic intentions.

The candidate's response includes an explanation of the impact of intricate footwork, traveling and contact work to communicate the intentions of the dance piece.

- ◆ the footwork suggesting heated arguments between the prisoner and guards
- ◆ traveling showing the longing for freedom and to escape
- ◆ contact and manipulating movements to show that the guards are more powerful and in control

Applying a holistic approach overall the candidate can access 3 marks for this response. To access further marks, the candidate would need to give clear explanations, with more detail on the impact of movements and the relationship to the intentions of the piece.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **6 marks** because they identify spatial elements and give a clear and detailed analysis of the choreographer's use of spatial elements to communicate the intentions.

The candidate analysed the use of levels, formations and pathways to communicate the intentions of the dance piece clearly and in detail to access 6 marks.

The candidate's response includes:

- ◆ the guards posture used to make them appear very powerful and making it clear the victim will be overpowered
- ◆ the use of small movements low to the floor showing that he feels trapped
- ◆ formation two against one with guards either side to show the prisoner is trapped with the guards restricting where he can go
- ◆ the guards in front to show inferiority and dominance
- ◆ entering and exiting to stage right to show the cell
- ◆ the use of a diagonal pathway to convey hope and desire

The candidate demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the selected spatial elements and how the choreographer used this to convey meaning and effects.

Section 1 marks - 14/24

Section 2 marks - 12/16

Total marks - 26/40