

Commentary on candidate evidence

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each question of the question paper.

Candidate 1

Section 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of one development method they have used to improve one technical skill.

The candidate has given a straightforward overview of their method used to develop their flexibility. They have described the process that they would go through with their 'stretching routine' giving examples of stretches that were included as well as the frequency of the exercises, the duration they would be held for, rest days, as well as how they would progressively make them more challenging and know if improvement was taking place. The response lacks the descriptive detail for further marks.

Question 1(b)

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** because they have given a detailed response that evaluates the development method that they have described in question 1(a) to improve their flexibility.

Their response provides a detailed evaluation and refers to a number of aspects of progression that have happened due to following the development method. The candidate evaluated the use of progressive overload and motivation through use of photos. To have gained 4/4 the answer would have needed more clarity. This could have been provided through further examples of specific movements that were improved. This would have provided evidence to support their judgements.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** because they have provided a detailed response that explains the impact that their self-expression had on their contemporary performance.

The first example highlights the use of a pained expression during a contraction which helped to communicate the hurt and sadness and provides further detail of the impact this had on their performance.

The second example lacks clarity and the understanding of their use of self-expression is not as evident as it was in the second example.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** because they have given a clear and detailed response that compares their use of musicality in their ballet solo to that used in their contemporary solo.

This response shows excellent detail and clarity highlighting that the candidate has an excellent understanding of musicality, and the terminology needed to show this throughout the response. They have made very clear comparisons between their use of musicality in both solos. There is a good link between the movement and the quality of the music and showing this through their movement.

This response goes beyond the requirements for 4 marks.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** because they have given a detailed response that explains the impact the key characteristics have had on contemporary dance.

The first example of contraction and release being a key characteristic is strong and provides good impact statements. However, the second example of floor work could have greater links to the impact that the characteristic of floor work has on contemporary dance. Their impact statements for this lacked clarity to gain 4 marks.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **6 marks** because they have given a clear and detailed response that analyses the ways in which social and cultural factors have influenced jazz dance.

The response is very detailed. The candidate clearly identifies the social and cultural factors and makes connections between these and the impact that they have had on the dance style.

At times the response lacks some clarity, however, the candidate continues to refer back to elements of the question demonstrating good analytical skills.

Section 2

Question 6(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for a straightforward explanation of the mood and/or atmosphere at a specific section within the piece.

The candidate referred to a playful mood and explained that this was created through the use of music, movement and props. They needed more detail about the mood/atmosphere to access the upper bracket.

Question 6(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for a clear and detailed explanation of the way the choreographer used music and/or sound to enhance the section explained in question 6(a).

They mentioned the Latin feel of the music and the use of the cha-pa-cha sounds which adds to the idea of being playful and like a game of hide and seek. This reinforced the idea of a playful mood. They made specific reference to the syncopation in the music and the tango beat adding to the playful atmosphere of the section.

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for a detailed response that evaluates the use of lighting to communicate the choreographic intentions.

The candidate makes judgements through use of language such as 'very effectively' and 'very well'. They refer to the colour of lighting and how this is used to create mood which links well to the theme and intentions. They also evaluate the use of the type of lighting and how this symbolises the intentions in the piece, 'The dark edges symbolise a confined space which is symbolic of a prison cell and also represents his mind'. In the last example with the diagonal beam of light, there needed to be a little more clarity to show how it conveyed heaven or hope.

Question 8(a)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** for no description of key movements within a motif.

The description of key movements is too limited to access the 'straightforward' mark allocation. Within the response there are explanations of why the movements have been used. Looking solely at the descriptive points that have been made it lacks description.

Question 8(b)

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for a detailed response that analyses the way in which the key movements within the motif described in question 8(a) were developed to communicate the choreographic intentions.

There is an analysis of the use of levels and embellishment. The candidate analyses how the lower level helps to show their deteriorating state because of their human rights and abuse, and the embellishment of the prisoner's solo using off balance and clipped wings. The answer lacks some clarity by analysing more clearly what the changes are, and how the progression of the movement has conveyed the intentions.

Total marks – 29/40

Candidate 2

Section 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have described one development method they have used to improve one technical skill clearly and in detail.

The candidate has approached this question in a different way to other candidates. They have described a specific exercise from their development method of stretching. They have given clear detail on how to carry out the stretch along with teaching points for how to do the stretch as well as how to add progression.

Whilst this is a different approach to answering this question it is still valid and meets the requirements for the marks.

Question 1(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have provided a straightforward response that evaluates the development method used to improve the technical skill described in question 1(a).

There is some detail provided in the first half of the response but there is also a lot of repetition and some vague impact statements such as 'professional and unprofessional' and 'not able to do it' and 'I am now able to do it'. This would have needed further evaluation and clarity to have gained further marks.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a limited response that explains the impact of self-expression in their jazz solo.

The response is very repetitive and lacks key details to show the impact that their use of self-expression had on their performance. For example, 'no facial expression, then my dance would come across as robotic and lose the attention of the audience'. The candidate needs to explain why no facial expression would lose the audience's attention.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have not compared their use of musicality in their two contrasting dance solos.

Within the response the candidate writes about the quality and sound of the music, but they do not relate this to their movements or their use of the music through their performance. The candidate made comments such as 'my musicality in contemporary is usually slow and more controlled'. This is incorrect and does not relate to musicality.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a straightforward response that explains the impact of key characteristics on jazz dance.

Two examples have been given and these link to the impact that the key characteristics have had on the dance style, for example, they highlight that the costumes help the audience to engage in the performance, and that the use of props such as canes and hats can help with storytelling through the performance and add interest. Both examples are straightforward and would require further detail for more marks. There is quite a lot of repetition throughout the response.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** because they have given a fairly detailed response that analyses the ways in which social and cultural factors have influenced jazz dance.

This response has some inaccuracies but does provide some detailed information out with these inaccuracies. The start is quite repetitive, however, there is some analysis within the response to allow the candidate to access 3/6 marks. At times the impact for the analysis could have been stronger, for example, the clapping and stomping linking to the rhythmic nature of the music rather than still seeing clapping and stamping.

Section 2

Question 6(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for a straightforward explanation of the mood and/or atmosphere at a specific section within the piece.

The candidate referred to an intense, scary and dramatic mood which puts the audience on the edge of their seat. The response was straightforward as their needed to be more detail about what was happening on stage that helped to contribute to creating this mood.

Question 6(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for a clear and detailed explanation of the way the choreographer uses music and/or sound to enhance the section explained in question 6(a).

The candidate refers to the use of silence creating an eerie and intense start and allowing the audience to hear the tapping. The sound of the tapping is explained in detail in relation to what it communicates, such as 'steady tapping' and 'the interrogation starts off calm' then starts to become 'more violent', 'more erratic' which created a 'sense of tension'. This provided the clarity to support the candidate's explanation of the sound.

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** for a clear and detailed response that evaluates the use of lighting to communicate the choreographic intentions.

Judgements are made using the word 'effectively' on a number of occasions throughout the candidate response. The spotlight is evaluated in its ability to put 'all eyes' on the prisoner showing the pressure that he is under. They also mention it as a way of showing that he is trapped and that the space he has surrounding him is so small. This is then further linked back to the theme and intentions of the piece discussing his freedom of sexuality. The candidate then goes on to discuss the diagonal shaft of light and evaluates its symbolism of a window and the prisoners want for freedom further emphasising that he is trapped. This is a good evaluation with clear detail to back up all points.

Question 8(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for a clear and detailed description of key movements within a motif.

They give a good description of the prisoner's motif with detailed points making clear the key movements.

Question 8(b)

The candidate was awarded **6 marks** for a clear and detailed response that analyses the way in which the key movements within the motif described in question 8(a) were developed to communicate the choreographic intentions.

The candidate analyses the use of instrumentation and retrograde to develop key movements within the motif. There is a clear analysis of how the movement had changed from what it was originally, and how the use of the motif development had helped to enhance the theme and intentions. They mention the reaching through his legs as a progression to show the desperation for freedom. The retrograde showing the prisoner giving up and becoming emotionally drained.

Total marks – 25/40

Candidate 3

Section 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of one development method they have used to improve one technical skill.

The candidate has described their use of the clam stretch to improve their turn out. The response lacks detail and clarity. From reading the response we are not able to get a full understanding of how this stretch will improve turn out.

Question 1(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a limited response that evaluates the development method used in question 1(a) to improve their turn out.

There is lots of detail but no specific examples to justify their judgements on the improvement of their turn out. Evaluative language is also limited, also it is evident throughout the question that they think that their turn out has improved through use of the development method.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a straightforward response that explains the impact of self-expression in their contemporary solo.

Whilst there is some repetition within the response, they have provided specific detail about the facial expressions used and shown clear knowledge and understanding of self-expression, and the impact that they had on the audience through them being able to connect with the performance.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have not compared their use of musicality in their two contrasting dance solos.

Within the response the candidate writes about the choreography of the solo, rather than their use of the music, and linking it to their performance and specific movements within the dance. There are lots of references to facial expressions. They do not show an understanding of musicality.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have provided a limited response that explains the impact of key characteristics in one chosen dance style.

The first example is limited but does highlight the key characteristic of pointe shoes in ballet, and links this to the impact of being elegant and the illusion of

longer legs, however, this lacks detail for further marks. The second example doesn't answer the question as there is no link to the impact that the characteristic of costumes has on the dance style.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because there is no analysis of the ways in which social and/or cultural factors have influenced ballet. The candidate has answered as though it were a describe question.

Section 2

Question 6(a)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** for no valid explanation of the mood and/or atmosphere at a specific section within the piece.

The candidate refers to a dull and sad atmosphere and says that this shows they are confused and lost hope, but there is no explanation of what we see that shows this. This lacks clarity and is a limited response.

Question 6(b)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** for no valid explanation of the way the choreographer uses music and/or sound to enhance the section explained in question 6(a).

The candidate talks about the music being slow to show a tough situation but doesn't explain how. They also mention the lyrics 'fix me Jesus' having religious connotations, but again fails to link this to the theme/intention or mood discussed.

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** for a response that has no evaluation of the use of lighting to communicate the choreographic intentions.

The candidate has made a number of points within their response relating to spotlight, and how it shines on different groups, and the colour of the lighting. However, the candidate did not evaluate throughout their response, therefore no marks could be awarded.

Question 8(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for a straightforward description of key movements within a motif.

The candidate provided some detail in the first paragraph that provides a straightforward description of key movements within one motif; however, they then go on to discuss other movements seen throughout the full piece. The candidate was awarded the mark for the description within the response which can be seen in the first paragraph.

Question 8(b)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** for a response that does not analyse the way in which the key movements within the motif were developed to communicate the choreographic intentions.

The candidate has not answered the question. The response explains why the choreographer has used these key movements as opposed to analysing how they have been developed. There is no mention of motif development therefore they cannot access any marks.

Total marks – 6/40

Candidate 4

Section 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have given a response that gives no description of one development method they have used to improve one technical skill.

The response is vague. The candidate refers to stretching and to static and dynamic stretches, and identifies some stretches, but the descriptive language and detail are missing.

Question 1(b)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have given a response that gives no evaluation of the development method used in question 1(a) to improve their flexibility.

The candidate has not understood the question and has not evaluated their development method. They have described a development method.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have given a response that has no explanation of the impact of self-expression in their solo.

Through their response the candidate does not demonstrate their understanding of what self-expression is.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have not compared their use of musicality in their two contrasting dance solos.

Within the response the candidate writes about the quality and tempo of the music, rather than comparing their use of musicality in their two solos. There is one comment at the end of the response, however in the context of the question there is not enough to be awarded any marks.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have provided a response that gives no explanation of the impact of the key characteristics in their chosen dance.

Their response does not answer the question. It vaguely refers to costume and props used, but it does not say how the characteristics impact on the style.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because there is no analysis of the ways in which social and/or cultural factors have influenced jazz. The response is very

short and descriptive, and whilst there is one example, the impact is not accurate to access marks.

Section 2

Question 6(a)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** for no valid explanation of the mood and/or atmosphere at a specific section within the piece.

The candidate mentions a suspenseful eerie atmosphere as he stands alone on the stage in complete silence. There isn't enough explanation/justification of the mood in relation to the piece and doesn't meet the requirements as it is limited.

Question 6(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for a straightforward explanation of the way the choreographer uses music and/or sound to enhance the section explained in question 6(a).

The candidate just meets the standard for this response. They explain the use of silence and that it adds tension. It keeping the audience wondering what is about to happen, adding intensity and creating a suspenseful atmosphere.

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for a limited response that evaluates the use of lighting to communicate the choreographic intentions.

The candidate makes a limited statement that evaluates the choreographer's use of a shaft of light. The candidate just meets the standard mentioning that the diagonal light is effective, as it symbolises freedom after the prisoner's death.

Question 8(a)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** for no description of key movements within a motif.

The candidate has given a couple of descriptive points but the answer leans more to explaining the movements. The descriptions on their own do not merit enough to access any marks

Question 8(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for a limited response that analyses the way in which the key movements within the motif described in question 8(a) were developed to communicate the choreographic intentions.

They referred to the use of the original reaching motif, and how this is changed and performed in reverse. They make the relationship between this and the intention of him giving up, and that is why he stops trying.

Total marks – 3/40