



Dance (National 5): question paper

Commentary on candidate evidence

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

Candidate 1

Section 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of their use of posture and alignment when performing front kicks in the centre, detailing having the hips square and level with a straight back and being able to sustain the whack of the kick.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed description of their sense of performance during a jazz solo. They have given examples of the ways that they used facial expressions, along with force and energy when performing a leap and drag steps.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of their use of timing in their solo performance. They have detailed the clicking used at the start of the solo and the impact on the audience/examiner.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** because they have evaluated their positive use of space, in some detail. They have referenced a side leap and using the plié to contrast the levels for effective execution of the movement. The candidate's additional page has not been labelled to correlate with the correct question, therefore, cannot be considered for question 4.

Section 2 – jazz

Question 5(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of the leg action for a front leap. The candidate did not fully describe the traveling stage of the step to access all available marks.

Question 5(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of the use of quality and dynamic for a leap, detailing the contrasting dynamics of the preparation and then the movement quality/dynamics.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed description of the vibrant costumes and head pieces used for jazz dance to access all the marks available.

Question 7(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of the ways that Bob Fosse's iconic style is recognisable, with the example of poor turnout and his use of this characteristic as a choreographer.

Question 7(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of the ways that Bob Fosse impacted jazz in the present day, describing the ways that he brought jazz to a new audience. To access the second mark the candidate would need to have given more detail on the impact in the present day.

Section 3 – Swansong by Christopher Bruce

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of a reaching movement and the meaning behind this movement to show the intentions of the piece relating this to longing and desperation to escape.

Question 9

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of question and answer and contact work. The candidate has given examples of their use and the meaning behind the devices to show the intentions of Christopher Bruce's Swansong.

Question 10(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of the use of silence and footsteps used at the start of the piece. By giving two straightforward points rather than a detailed description, the candidate cannot access the second mark.

Question 10(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed evaluation of the use of music and sound by stating it was used well to communicate the intentions and giving many examples linking clearly to the theme.

Total – 26 marks

Candidate 2

Section 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of their use of posture and alignment when performing a kick sequence in the centre. The candidate only just achieves the 2 marks by referring to being up straight and have shoulders back, and head 'up' in alignment. The candidate highlights the need for this alignment and posture to maintain balance, thus explaining how they have used this in their centre work.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of their sense of performance when performing their solo. If the candidate had described their facial expressions in detail and/or described their body projection to convey the 'emotional connection', they could have achieved the remaining mark.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward explanation of the way in which they used timing within their solo performance. If the candidate had referred to specific moments or movements their counts of 8 had helped, or a specific moment 'hitting the beat' was important, they could have achieved the remaining mark.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** because they have given an evaluation of their use of space within their solo performance, in some detail. The candidate has just accessed the 3 marks as the evaluative language used could be stronger throughout however, they have made a judgement on their use of space being 'good', therefore can access the marks. The candidate has covered areas of the stage, levels and extension when referring to their use of space. The remaining mark could have been achieved by better integration of evaluative language or developing some of the points made by referring to things such as personal space.

Section 2 – jazz

Question 5(a)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because you can't perform a side leap from the candidate's description, instead they describe a straddle jump. They also do not make it clear that this is intended to travel therefore, do not achieve the marking criteria to access the available marks.

Question 5(b)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have not referred to quality and/or dynamics within their answer; 'bolder' is an attempt however, too limited to be awarded any marks.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have approached the answer as though they are selecting a costume, rather than a costume used for stage performance.

Question 7(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of being able to identify Bob Fosse's work from his use of inversion and rolled shoulders that he choreographed due to his own physical capabilities.

Question 7(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of the way Bob Fosse has impacted the jazz style in the present day. The candidate just achieves the 1 mark as the link to present day could be clearer however, the specific link to 'All that Jazz' and reference to music videos, allows the candidate to achieve the mark. Further detail on the work of Bob Fosse that we still see performed today would have allowed the candidate to achieve the remaining mark.

Section 3 – Revelations by Alvin Ailey

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have not explained a key movement that helps communicate the theme/intention. The candidate refers to 'bird pose' which is limited and does not link this clearly to the intentions of the piece.

Question 9

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have not explained in what way two choreographic devices are used to communicate the theme/intentions. The candidate refers to spatial elements in their first point. They then mention motif development however, they do not explain what they mean by this or the use, nor do they link it to the theme/intention of the piece.

Question 10(a)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because the description is limited as they start explaining the use of music within the response. The candidate could have referred to musical qualities, contrasts, instruments etc to help add detail to their answer.

Question 10(b)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because their answer lacked any evaluation. If the candidate had utilised evaluative language, they might have achieved a mark for the points made.

Total – 10 marks

Candidate 3

Section 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have given a limited explanation of their use of posture and alignment when performing their leap. The question also asks for centre work therefore, there are more appropriate technical exercises the candidate could have referenced. The candidate only refers to tucking their pelvis under. To achieve more marks the candidate would need to have expanded on this and explain in what way they use this during centre work.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have given a limited description of their sense of performance when performing their solo; they have listed skills. If the candidate had expanded on their self-expression or facial expressions and described the use of these in detail, they could have accessed the marks.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward explanation of the way in which they used timing within their solo performance. If the candidate had referred more to specific movements or expanded on 'parts I extended longer' and 'which ones had to be sharp', they could have achieved the remaining mark.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a straightforward evaluation of their use of space within their solo performance. The candidate has just accessed the 2 marks as the evaluative language used could be stronger throughout however, they have made a judgement on their use of space being 'good', therefore can access the marks. The candidate has little on personal space and some on general space. They could have expanded on these points, considering levels and areas of the stage, to achieve the remaining marks.

Section 2 – contemporary

Question 5(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because it is clear they are describing a travelling leap from their response however, cannot achieve the remaining mark as it is not possible to perform the style-specific step accurately based on the candidate's response.

Question 5(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they explain the contrast of smooth to sharp in the leap in a straightforward way. The candidate could access the remaining mark by – for example – adding detail to the landing or talking about the overall movement quality.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of a stage costume for contemporary. Colour, material and/or extra detail would have allowed the candidate to achieve the remaining mark.

Question 7(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given two straightforward points on recognising Martha Graham's work. If the candidate had referred to the rebellion against ballet or something similar, this would have added detail to access the remaining mark.

Question 7(b)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have not made clear the impact Martha Graham has had on the present day within contemporary dance.

Section 3 – Revelations by Alvin Ailey

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have explained the bird movement and in what way that links to symbolise the theme of hope for freedom.

Question 9

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have explained in what ways the use of partner work communicates the theme. The candidate would need to have explained the partner work used to access more marks here. The candidate also gives a limited explanation of the use of unison therefore, achieves no marks for this device.

Question 10(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have described tempo, mood and a sound effect. The candidate would need to have added detail to these points to access any remaining marks.

Question 10(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because their answer makes an evaluative judgement by saying 'good' and explains the use of music and/or sounds in a straightforward way. Detail on the contents on one of the specific pieces referenced by the candidate could have allowed them to access the remaining mark.

Total – 12 marks

Candidate 4

Section 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of their use of posture and alignment when performing turns in the centre. The candidate references the use of a straight back and straight line from head to toe to provide the detail required.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of their sense of performance. They have given examples of adding flair, energy, and emotion to the solo performance however, the candidate would need to have provided more detail on one of these points, such as the expression used, to show a particular emotion for the leap to access the remaining mark.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of their use of timing, referencing maintaining the right speed for a leap and split to keep their movements in time.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a straightforward evaluation of their use of space. The candidate gave an example of successfully using the space for a leap and running for a grabbing movement. The candidate would need to have provided more detail on these movements or referenced the use of levels or personal space to access further marks.

Section 2 – jazz

Question 5(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed description of a high kick crossing the floor and provided detail on the arm and leg action with the posture used when performing the style specific step.

Question 5(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward explanation of the dynamics used for a kick by referencing soft and sharp dynamic qualities. They would need to have expanded on these qualities to access the remaining mark.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of costumes used for a stage performance in jazz dance. The candidate provides a list of many straightforward points, rather than providing detail on one of these garments.

Question 7(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of the ways that Bob Fosse's style is recognisable. The response gives examples of his key characteristics and the use of hats in Chicago to cover his balding.

Question 7(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed description of the impact Bob Fosse had on jazz in the present day. The response gave examples of his unique style influencing Beyonce, The Rockettes and places that dancers can still take Bob Fosse style classes today.

Section 3 – Greenwood by Donald Byrd

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed explanation of a lift with a high release and linked this to the intentions of the choreography. This response just meets the 2-mark criteria as the candidate could have given more detail on the differences of the key movement.

Question 9

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** because they have given a detailed description of the use of partner work and juxtaposition. With the holistic approach to marking, the candidate could access all available marks as their response for partner work is very detailed with many examples of the use and linking this to the intentions of the piece clearly to access 3 marks. The response explanation for juxtaposition was straightforward therefore, the candidate accessed the final mark.

Question 10(a)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have explained the use of silence rather than describing the use of music and/or sound in the piece.

Question 10(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward evaluation of the successful use of silence to communicate the intentions of the piece.

Total – 22 marks

Candidate 5

Section 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward explanation of their use of posture/alignment when performing a turn. Although they have mentioned a solo, we can mark positively as a turn could be performed in the centre and award the candidate a mark, as they have explained their use of posture and shoulders back to ensure they stay balanced.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a detailed description of their sense of performance when performing their solo, just meeting the criteria. The second sentence verges on straightforward however, as it is a contrast within their facial expressions during their solo that they have described, they can access the marks at National 5.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have given a limited explanation of their use of timing in their solo performance.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they have given a straightforward evaluation of the use of space within their solo performance. The candidate has just accessed the 2 marks as the evaluative language used could be stronger throughout however, they have made a judgement on their use of space being 'successful' therefore, can access the marks when they mention travelling across the floor.

Section 2 – jazz

Question 5(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because you can tell they are describing a pas de bourrée from their description – which can travel – however, the candidate has not described the step as travelling therefore, cannot access the remaining mark.

Question 5(b)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they give a limited explanation of the use of dynamics, by saying fast and slow. The candidate would need to have been more specific and provided more detail to access the remaining marks.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a straightforward description of a stage costume for jazz, referencing materials, colours and gloves. The candidate needed to be more specific on garments worn to access the remaining mark.

Question 7(a)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have given a limited explanation of the way you can recognise Bob Fosse's iconic work.

Question 7(b)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they have not made clear the impact Bob Fosse has had on the present day within jazz dance.

Section 3 – Ghost Dances by Christopher Bruce**Question 8**

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have explained the link between the chain movement and the theme/intentions however, further depth on 'the chain dance' is required to access the remaining mark.

Question 9

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have given a limited explanation of unison and partner work. The explanation for the choreographic devices do not link clearly to the choreographic theme/intentions to access further marks available.

Question 10(a)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** because they have described an instrument used, mood and a sound effect. The candidate would need to have added detail to these to access any remaining marks.

Question 10(b)

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because their answer does not make any evaluative points.

Total – 10 marks