



Dance: Technical Skills (Higher) Unit

SCQF: level 6 (9 SCQF credit points)

Unit code: H22R 76

Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to develop refined technical skills in contrasting dance styles for solo and/or group dance performances. Dance techniques will be explored before being applied in tutor-choreographed dance sequences and performance. Safe dance practice will also be developed and applied. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural factors influencing dance, and will also apply critical thinking skills when developing knowledge and understanding of dance styles and practitioners. They will evaluate their own work and that of others.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contrasting dance styles
- 2 Apply technical dance skills in contrasting dance styles

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the Higher Dance Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit Specification should be read in conjunction with the *Unit Support Notes*, which provide advice and guidance on delivery, assessment approaches and development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in *Unit Assessment Support*.

The *Course Assessment Specification* for the Higher Dance Course gives further mandatory information on Course coverage for learners taking this Unit as part of the Higher Dance Course.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. However learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ Dance: Technical Skills (National 5) Unit
- ◆ free-standing Units in Dance at SCQF level 5

Equality and inclusion

This Unit Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information, please refer to the *Unit Support Notes*.

Standards

Outcomes and assessment standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contrasting dance styles by:

- 1.1 Comparing the technical skills and characteristics of two contrasting dance styles
- 1.2 Analysing the social and cultural influences on one selected dance style

Outcome 2

The learner will:

2 Apply technical dance skills in contrasting dance styles by:

- 2.1 Demonstrating refined technical skills and principles of two contrasting dance styles
- 2.2 Performing two tutor-choreographed dance sequences in contrasting dance styles
- 2.3 Applying knowledge of safe dance practice when demonstrating technical dance skills
- 2.4 Analysing and evaluating technical dance skills in own and another's work

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners, to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used.

Evidence will be a combination of written and/or oral and performance evidence. Evidence may be presented for individual Outcomes or it may be gathered for the Unit as a whole by combining assessment holistically in one single activity. If the latter approach is used, it must be clear how the evidence covers each Outcome.

Learners will be required to provide evidence of:

- ◆ detailed comparison of the technical skills and characteristics of two contrasting dance styles
- ◆ analysis of how social/cultural factors have influenced a selected dance style
- ◆ the ability to demonstrate refined technical skills in two contrasting dance styles
- ◆ the ability to apply technical and performance skills when performing dance sequences
- ◆ application of safe dance practice
- ◆ the ability to analyse and evaluate the technical dance skills demonstrated by self, peers and/or others

Dance styles assessed in this Unit will be chosen by the assessor.

Exemplification of assessment is provided in *Unit Assessment Support*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Unit. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Unit are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

3 Health and wellbeing

- 3.1 Personal learning
- 3.3 Physical wellbeing

4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship

- 4.3 Working with others

5 Thinking skills

- 5.3 Applying
- 5.4 Analysing and evaluating

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level of the Unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work is given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Administrative information

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Superclass: LB

History of changes to National Unit Specification

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
2.0	Page 1 — Clarification of Unit outline to reflect changes made to Outcomes and Assessment Standards. Page 3 — Changes to Outcomes and Assessment Standards to clarify requirements and need for contrasting dance styles. Clarification of Evidence Requirements to reflect changes made to Outcomes and Assessment Standards.	Qualifications Development Manager	April 2014

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