

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Stage Presentation (Intermediate 2)

NUMBER D662 11

COURSE

SUMMARY

This unit is designed to enable candidates to present themselves positively on stage and is aimed at performers other than actors eg. singers, band members, dancers.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Investigate the physical properties of a stage.
- 2 Present oneself effectively on stage.
- 3 Evaluate own performance.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

There is no prescribed entry requirement for this unit.

CREDIT VALUE

0.5 Credit at Intermediate 2.

CORE SKILLS

Information on the automatic certification of any core skills in this unit is published in *Automatic Certification of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, 1999).

Administrative Information

Superclass: LC

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National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT Stage Presentation (Intermediate 2)

Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Investigate the physical properties of a stage.

Performance criteria

- a) Different types of stages for performance are described.
- b) The physical properties of a selected stage are investigated.
- c) Ways in which the physical space can be used effectively are explained.
- d) Know and understand basic theatre terminology in relation to the stage.

Evidence requirements

Please refer to *Evidence requirements for the unit* at the end of the Statement of Standards.

OUTCOME 2

Present oneself effectively on stage.

Performance criteria

- a) The purpose and nature of the performance are explained clearly and the personal contribution identified.
- b) Positioning and movements around the stage are discussed and agreed with relevant colleagues.
- c) Spatial awareness of the physical space in relation to equipment and other performers is clearly demonstrated during rehearsals.
- d) The selection of costume and make-up is appropriate to the nature of the performance, is comfortable and allows freedom of movement.
- e) Personal preparation is thorough prior to performance.
- f) The presentation is effective in conveying confidence, self assurance and reflects the purpose and nature of the performance.

Evidence requirements

Please refer to *Evidence requirements for the unit* at the end of the Statement of Standards.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

UNIT Stage Presentation (Intermediate 2)

OUTCOME 3

Evaluate own performance.

Performance criteria

- a) The purpose and nature of the candidate's personal contribution is explained clearly.
- b) Personal preparation is evaluated in relation to preparing oneself to perform effectively on stage.
- c) Personal performance is evaluated in relation to conveying effectively the purpose and nature of the performance and making use of the stage space.

Evidence requirements

Please refer to *Evidence requirements for the unit* at the end of the Statement of Standards.

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE UNIT

Outcome 1

Written and/or oral evidence to meet the performance criteria. For PC (b) a stage space should be identified and its physical properties described.

Evidence for this could be a combination of written and graphic information. For PC (d) basic terminology should include 'centre stage', 'off stage'; 'backstage'.

Outcome 2

Written and/or oral evidence for PCs (a) and (b) and performance evidence for PCs (c), (d) and (f) to meet the performance criteria.

Outcome 3

Written and/or oral evidence to meet the performance criteria. Performance evidence in the form of video tape may also be used for PC (c).

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Stage Presentation (Intermediate 2)

This part of the unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 20 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

Throughout this unit, the terms ‘stage’ and ‘performance’ are used in their broadest sense.

This unit is designed for performers other than actors. For outcome 1, candidates should investigate the physical properties of the stage on which they are to perform and become familiar with the area available. It should be noted that ‘stage’ may be conventional, ie. a standard theatre, and unconventional eg. outdoor venues, theatre ‘in the round’ etc. Ways in which the physical space can impact the delivery of a performance should be explored. By becoming familiar with the physical space, a candidate’s confidence may be enhanced.

Outcome 2 focuses on personal presentation in a stage performance and highlights several key areas: the need to make time for personal preparation ie. to arrive at the venue in good time to change etc., to allow time to relax and rehearse; understanding the purpose and nature of the performance; identifying one’s role within it; communicating and negotiating with others, eg. director/stage manager/lighting engineer/sound engineer/other performers; developing an awareness of how one’s movements and presentation may affect others on stage; developing self-awareness and self-esteem, assurance and confidence and being able to convey this to an audience. Choice of costume and make-up is important in underpinning confidence and should be appropriate to the purpose and nature of the performance.

For outcome 3, emphasis should be on encouraging the candidate to reflect his/her preparation, spatial awareness and understanding of the nature of the performance as well as the outcome, ie. actual performance. A reflective log or diary could be useful in noting discussions with relevant colleagues and recording decisions regarding choice of movements, costume and make-up. The evaluation should cover how effective each of these has been in conveying the purpose and nature of the performance and if they contributed to increased confidence in the presentation. Effective presentation depends on a combination of these factors.

By this stage, performers should be able to present themselves confidently on stage and display an awareness of how best to use the stage space available to show themselves in a positive light.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

Time could be spent on developing self-awareness, identifying strengths and weaknesses in general communication skills. Role play could be used to develop confidence and self-esteem. Familiarity with the stage space is also very important and candidates should, where possible, have the opportunity to become familiar with it and to rehearse/practice moves etc. The intention is to provide candidates with the skills to present themselves as effectively and positively as possible. Liaison with the production team should be encouraged where possible so that candidates can become familiar with the ways in which lighting/sound/costume etc can influence and enhance the individual's presentation.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Written exercises/reflective logs and diaries could be used. Performances/preparation could be assessed by direct observation or video-tape. For outcome 3, a combination of reflective log, report and video-taped performance could be used.

SPECIAL NEEDS

This unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. Special needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering special alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment and Certification Arrangements for Candidates with Special Needs/Candidates whose First Language is not English* (SQA, 1998).