



# Dance

## Guidance on modifications to National 5 assessments for session 2020–21

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# Guidance for teachers and lecturers for the practical activity

COVID-19 may continue to disrupt learning and teaching this session. This guidance document helps you to support your candidates as they work on their practical activity.

Candidates are still required to create and present a dance for two people, excluding self, lasting a minimum of 1 minute and 30 seconds and a maximum of 2 minutes.

## Section 1: choreography

The following information details the most suitable choreographic devices and spatial elements to use for choreography in session 2020–21. You can find detailed descriptions in the course specification.

You are strongly encouraged to maintain records of candidates' progress and achievement, including regular filming of the choreographic process and technical solos.

### Choreographic devices

We advise that candidates do not use contact work and/or partner work as choreographic devices this year.

Candidates are still required to incorporate three choreographic devices into the piece to meet the assessment criteria.

Candidates can effectively apply the following choreographic devices, while maintaining a safe distance between dancers.

Motif development helps candidates to establish the theme of the choreography. Rather than candidates continually inventing new movements for a dance, once they create a motif, they can use variations to develop the dance into a final piece of choreography. By applying motif development, the choreographer is making the dance original and unique to them, while communicating the theme and/or intentions.

Candidates can develop their motifs in several ways, including:

- ◆ using different parts of the body
- ◆ adding or changing direction
- ◆ changing the size
- ◆ changing the level
- ◆ increasing or decreasing the speed
- ◆ changing the dynamics and/or quality
- ◆ changing the order of movements
- ◆ changing the staging by performing the motif in a different place
- ◆ substituting one movement to another movement

Other suitable choreographic devices are:

- ◆ unison
- ◆ canon
- ◆ mirroring
- ◆ repetition
- ◆ retrograde

Call and response may be a suitable alternative to partner or contact work. This can be described as conversational: one person moves, and the other person's movement responds to (answers) the movement of the initial mover.

This list is not exhaustive or prescriptive and candidates can use other devices.

## **Spatial elements**

Candidates must consider the use of space carefully when planning and creating their choreography and apply spatial elements that allows all the dancers to maintain a safe distance throughout the duet.

You should reinforce the importance of maintaining a safe distance during the planning, creating, and learning process for choreography.

We advise that candidates do not use close proximities, however, they can still apply proximities while maintaining a safe distance within the choreography.

Candidates can effectively apply the following and keep a safe distance between the two dancers:

- ◆ levels
- ◆ directions
- ◆ body shape
- ◆ size
- ◆ pathways (for example, one dancer travels in a circular pathway downstage, while the other travels following a straight pathway upstage, or one dancer follows a spiralling circular pathway, as the other dancer performs on the spot to communicate an idea or meaning)

This list is not exhaustive or prescriptive.

If candidates are unable to apply particular spatial elements that they feel would have been more appropriate to communicate their intentions, they will have the opportunity to explain the spatial elements that they feel would have been more suitable in their choreography review, and during the short introduction of the choreography at the assessment.

The candidate's original intentions for the use of spatial elements and the restrictions caused by physical distancing should be taken into consideration by the assessor. A comment

should be made on the marksheet to highlight that additional evidence has informed the assessment decision. A maximum of 2 extra marks can be awarded by the assessor based on the explanation provided by the candidate.

As the choreographer may need to replace a dancer due to illness or self-isolation, the choreographer must know both dancers' movements and be able to stand in to perform if required.

## **Section 2: choreography review**

The review and marking instructions remain the same.