



GCSE DANCE

HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL

COURSE CONTENT

3

Choreography 30%

Students will create a solo/ group in response to a stimulus set by the exam board

Performance 30%

- A solo performance of two set phrases
- A duet/ trio performance including two remaining set phrase

Critical
appreciation 40%

A written examination (1h30), demonstrating knowledge of own practice in performance and choreography and critical appreciation of 6 professional works

CHOREOGRAPHY

Students will create a solo/ group in response to a stimulus set by the exam board

How to achieve a high quality piece of choreography:

- Originality and creativity outcome through extensive research
- Use a range of challenging action, space, dynamic and relationship ideas
 - Effective transitions
- Consider use of exits/ entrances
- Add in some memorable moments
 - Add in a climax
- Explore more than one music idea or aural setting and listen to the feedback from your teachers

The collage contains the following elements:

- Handwritten notes on the atmosphere:**
 - Troposphere - most dense layer
↳ controls the weather.
 - phere - ozone layer
↳ absorbs/emits radiation
 - Meteors burn up in this layer
↳ HOT!
 - Aurora + satellites
↳ orbiting
- Diagram: Layers of the Atmosphere**
 - Exosphere
 - Thermosphere
 - Mesosphere
 - Stratosphere
 - Troposphere

Earth's Atmosphere
- Handwritten notes on choreography:**
 - moving slowly (liquid form) ↳ lava
 - ozone layer
↳ absorbs/emits
 - magnetic field
 - Aura ↳ crea
 - contact
 - Gas particles (ions)
 - orbiting (satellites)
- Photographs:**
 - A group of dancers in a dark space, one is being supported by others.
 - A dancer in a blue outfit performing a high kick.
 - A dancer in a green outfit performing a move.
- Handwritten notes on choreographic intention:**
 - trust, relationship, physical skills
 - Strong bonds
 - trying to break away
 - gravity
 - attractive
- Handwritten notes on dancers:**
 - 4 dancers
 - ↳ 4 layers of atmosphere
 - ↳ Episodic structure
 - ↳ Each of the dancers to reflect their own personal life
 - ↳ ... of the atmosphere
- Other notes:**
 - needs:
 - objects we know water to exist.
 - ↳ absorbs solar radiation (heat up)
 - ↳ inside world
 - ↳ reflects reality.
 - ↳ sketch layer (slimy)

PERFORMANCE

- A solo performance of two set phrases
- A duet/ trio performance including two remaining set phrase

How to achieve a high-quality set phrase:

- Treat it as a performance
- Perform with use of projection, facial expression and focus
- Show knowledge of the rhythmic content 'hold' counts by pausing
 - A variation in dynamics

How to achieve a high-quality duet:

- Clear original dance idea
 - Ensuring challenge in choreographic choices
- Showing off individual capabilities
- Clear moments of safe practice
- Excellent timing with a partner
 - Does the style enable you to access top band marks?
- 100% commitment throughout the whole dance
- Engaging performance – use of character/ facial expression
- Clear inclusion of remaining set phrases

CRITICAL APPRECIATION

Section A - questions on knowledge of key skills (performance and choreography)

KNOW YOUR KEY WORDS AND WHAT THEY RELATE TO!

Section B – questions on own practice (performance and choreography)

FOLLOW THE PEEL STRUCTURE
LINK ANSWER BACK TO QUESTION

Section C – questions on professional works

KNOW THE WORKS INSIDE OUT
HAVE SOME EXAMPLES READY IN REVISION NOTES

A written examination (1h30), demonstrating knowledge of own practice in performance and choreography and critical appreciation of 6 professional works

Choreographic Skills

ACTION travel turn elevation gesture stillness use of different body parts floor work transfer of weight	SPACE pathways levels directions size of movement patterns spatial design	DYNAMICS fast/slow sudden/sustained acceleration/deceleration strong/light direct/indirect flowing/abrupt
 what's in each box!		
RELATIONSHIPS lead and follow mirroring action and reaction accumulation complement and contrast counterpoint contact formations	STRUCTURE binary ternary rondo narrative episodic beginning/middle/end unity logical sequence	CHOREOGRAPHIC DEVICES motif and development repetition contrast highlights climax manipulation of number unison and canon
AURAL SETTINGS song instrumental orchestral spoken word silence natural sound found sound body percussion	PERFORMANCE ENVIRONMENTS proscenium arch end stage site-sensitive in-the-round	 

SECTION A : 30 MARKS

PERFORMING SKILLS

LEARN THEM!
Make sure you know which skill goes in which box!
You **WILL** need them!

PHYSICAL SKILLS posture alignment balance coordination control flexibility mobility strength stamina	TECHNICAL SKILLS action space dynamics relationships timing rhythmic content moving in a stylistically accurate way	EXPRESSIVE SKILLS projection focus spatial awareness facial expression phrasing musicality sensitivity to other dancers communication of choreographic intent
MENTAL SKILLS <u>PREP FOR PERFORMANCE</u> systematic repetition mental rehearsal rehearsal discipline planning of rehearsal response to feedback capacity to improve	MENTAL SKILLS <u>DURING PERFORMANCE</u> movement memory commitment concentration confidence	SAFE PRACTICE <u>PREP FOR PERFORMANCE</u> warming up cooling down nutrition hydration
		SAFE PRACTICE <u>DURING PERFORMANCE</u> safe execution appropriate dancewear, including: footwear hairstyle absence of jewellery

