



SAMPLE ASSESSMENT TASKS

DANCE
ATAR YEAR 11

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Sample assessment task

Dance – ATAR Year 11

Task 1

Assessment type: Performance/production

Conditions

Period allowed for completion of the task: 1 period per week for 12 weeks
Practical assessment completed in class: Term 2 week 3

Task weighting

20% of the school mark for this pair of units

Demonstration of technique

(73 marks)

You are required to complete exercises and sequences in hip hop and contemporary dance styles. You will also be required to keep a dance journal noting important aspects of each style, including alignment and placement details, new terminology and regularly commenting on your progress.

Task description

1. You will review basic anatomy for the dancer:
 - define and understand 'neutral alignment'
 - basic bones of the skeleton
 - basic muscles relevant to dance
 - identification of joint structure and range of movement.
2. You will identify and investigate basic biomechanical principles for dance:
 - centre of gravity
 - base of support
 - balance
 - motion: fall and recovery
 - transfer of weight.
3. You will participate in hip hop dance classes. Activities will include:
 - warming up the body
 - coordination exercises
 - isolation exercises
 - strength exercises
 - flexibility exercises
 - sequences emphasising levels and floor work, popping and locking, turns, jumps, travelling, and freestyling
 - sequences focusing on major principles: grounding, rhythm, isolation.

4. You will participate in contemporary dance classes. Activities will include:
- spinal rolls
 - flat back and c-curve
 - drop swings
 - brushes
 - plies
 - strength exercises
 - flexibility exercises
 - floor work
 - turning exercises
 - locomotor sequences involving elevation (triplets, leg swings, simple inversions e.g. cartwheels)
 - sequences focusing on major principles: grounding, space-eating, parallel.

Requirements for assessment	Due dates
<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstration of practical genre-specific technique assessment class	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dance journal: including identification of stylistic characteristics, anatomical principles and use of biomechanical principles specific to each genre. In addition, comment on your own progress in each genre	

Marking key for sample assessment task 1

Demonstration of contemporary technique	Sustains a coordinated and highly skilled application of technical dance skills in exercise /5	Demonstrates a coordinated and skilled application of technical dance skills in exercise /4	Performs technical dance skills adequately in exercise /3	Performs exercise demonstrating some control of technical dance skills but with inconsistencies /2	Performs exercise with insufficient control and limited application of technical dance skills /1
Spinal roll, alignment exercise					
Flat back and c-curve					
Drop swing exercise					
Plie, foot articulation including brushes and tendus					
Slow leg extension including strength					
Travelling sequence – runs, triplet phrase					
In and out of the floor travel sequence					
Jump sequence					
Score					/40
Safe dance practice					
Consistently applies safe dance practices. Consistently maintains a high level of control of body alignment					4
Consistently applies safe dance practices. Maintains competent control of body alignment throughout the exercises					3
Mostly applies safe dance practices. Demonstrates some use of alignment principles					2
Limited regard to safe dance practices. Limited alignment principles demonstrated					1
Score					/4
Subtotal					/44

Demonstration of hip hop technique	Sustains a coordinated and highly skilled application of technical dance skills in exercise /5	Demonstrates a coordinated and skilled application of technical dance skills in exercise /4	Performs technical dance skills adequately in exercise /3	Performs exercise demonstrating some control of technical dance skills but with inconsistencies /2	Performs exercise with insufficient control and limited application of technical dance skills /1
Floor work					
Turns					
Popping/Locking					
Travelling					
Score					/20
Safe dance practice					
Consistently applies safe dance practices. Consistently maintains a high level of control of body alignment					4
Consistently applies safe dance practices. Maintains competent control of body alignment throughout the exercises					3
Mostly applies safe dance practices. Demonstrates some use of alignment principles					2
Limited regard to safe dance practices. Limited alignment principles demonstrated					1
Score					/4
Subtotal					/24
Overall technique total					/68

Journal reflections	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes regular journal entries that clearly document observations and feedback provided throughout the technique classes • Makes regular journal entries that clearly document the identification of stylistic characteristics, anatomical principles and use of biomechanical principles specific to each genre/style • Shows insightful reflection on own progress in each genre/style strengths and limitations and offers constructive strategies to improve technical competence 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes regular journal entries that document observations and feedback from technique classes • Makes journal entries that document the identification of stylistic characteristics, anatomical principles and use of biomechanical principles specific to each genre/style • Able to reflect on own progress in each genre/style (may focus on one genre/style more than the other) strengths and limitations and makes relevant suggestions for improvement in technical competence 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes regular journal entries that document some observations and/or feedback from technique classes • Makes regular journal entries that document some stylistic characteristics, anatomical principles and use of biomechanical principles • Identifies some strengths and limitations and offers some ways they can improve technical competence 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes sporadic journal entries • Entries comment on limited stylistic characteristics, anatomical principles and use of biomechanical principles • Entries show little ability to identify strengths and/or limitations and/or ways to improve technical competence 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes the occasional journal entry • Token attempts only at identifying strengths and/or limitations and/or ways to improve technical competence 	1
Journal total	/5
Total task marks	/73
TASK WEIGHTING: Convert to 20% of overall unit mark	/20

Sample assessment task

Dance – ATAR Year 11

Task 6

Assessment type: Response

Conditions

Period allowed for completion of the task: 1 period approximately 50 minutes

Task weighting

10% of the school mark for this pair of units

In-class timed response

(24 marks)

After a series of lessons addressing the functions and contexts of dance within popular culture, you will complete an in-class timed response. The question will relate to how a dance genre/style has reflected the culture of the time and place in which it exists.

1. As a class, we will look at the functions of dance: ritualistic, artistic, social. We will investigate Aboriginal dance and its influences.
2. We will compare past and present popular dance genres/styles, discussing the historical and cultural contexts in which they exist. We will investigate how cultural contexts can provide inspiration for design concepts, and examine how dance genres/styles from diverse cultures and different times reflect changes in moral, social and cultural attitudes.
3. In small groups, you will be required to research one dance genre/style, following the report framework for note taking. As a class we will compile this information to create an information repository for dance genres/style.
4. Individually, you will continue to research a dance genre/style that is of interest to you, in order to prepare for the in-class timed response. Use information gathered from previous classes and to inspire your next steps in the research, for example:
 - look at the particular characteristics of the dance genre/style
 - research how the dance genre/style has evolved over time
 - research how the dance genre/style reflects cultural attitudes of the time.
5. You may spend time refining and organising your notes and ideas to create a skeleton structure prior to the in-class extended response, to allow for clarity and coherence. The question will be scaffolded in such a way as to allow you to shape your response addressing the dot points.

UNSEEN QUESTION

Explain how a dance genre/style has reflected the culture of the time and place in which it exists.

- Provide an historical overview of the dance genre/style. (4 marks)
- Outline three characteristics of this genre/style. (6 marks)
- Outline the social and historical context of the time. (4 marks)
- Discuss how the social and historical contexts of the time influenced the shape of the dance style/genre. (6 marks)
- Write your extended answer in a well-organised and clear manner, using dance terminology and language where appropriate. (4 marks)

Marking key for sample assessment task 6

Description	Marks
Provide an historical overview of the dance genre/style	
Provides a clear and detailed overview of the dance genre/style. Provides relevant and factual information	4
Provides a clear overview with some details about the dance genre/style. Uses relevant information	3
Provides a general overview of the dance genre/style. Uses relevant information, although some obvious facts are overlooked/incorrect	2
Provides a superficial, disjointed overview. Includes obvious/basic information only	1
Total	4
Describe three characteristics of this genre/style	
For each characteristic:	
Describes in detail a specific quality or feature of the dance genre or style	2
Identifies a specific quality or feature of the dance genre or style	1
Total	6
Outline the historical and social context of the time	
Provides a detailed outline of the significant historical events and details the social setting of the time	4
Provides an outline of historical events and adequately addresses the social setting of the time	3
Provides an outline of some historical events and/or comments on the social setting of the time	2
Makes superficial comments about historical events and/or social setting of the time	1
Total	4
Discuss how the historical and social contexts of the time influenced the shape of the dance style/genre	
Discusses comprehensively how the historical and social contexts of the time influenced the shape of the dance style/genre. Uses a range of relevant examples to support the discussion	6
Discusses with appropriate targeted detail how the historical and social contexts of the time influenced the shape of the dance style/genre. Uses relevant examples to support the discussion	5
Comments in some detail how the historical and social contexts of the time influenced the shape of the dance style/genre. Uses examples to support the discussion	4
Comments generally about the dance genre/style and makes tenuous links to the historical/social contexts. References some examples	3
Makes superficial comments about the dance genre or style and/or historical/social contexts	2
Makes brief/limited comment/s about the dance genre or style and/or historical/social contexts. Statements are mostly unrelated	1
Total	6
Write your extended answer in a well-organised and clear manner, using appropriate dance terminology and language	
Writes coherently and accurately, using a range of appropriate dance terminology and language	4
Writes in a well-organised manner, using appropriate dance terminology and language	3
Writes adequately to expresses ideas, using some dance terminology and language	2
Writes superficially, with ideas that are disjointed, using limited dance terminology and language	1
Total	4
Overall total	/24
TASK WEIGHTING: Convert to 10% of overall unit mark	/10