

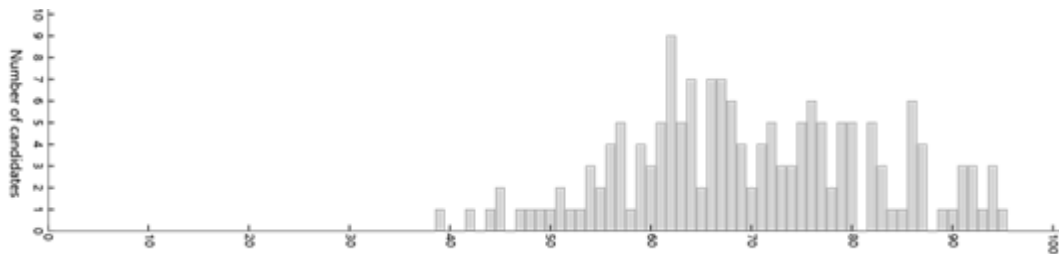


Summary report of the 2021 ATAR course examination report: Dance

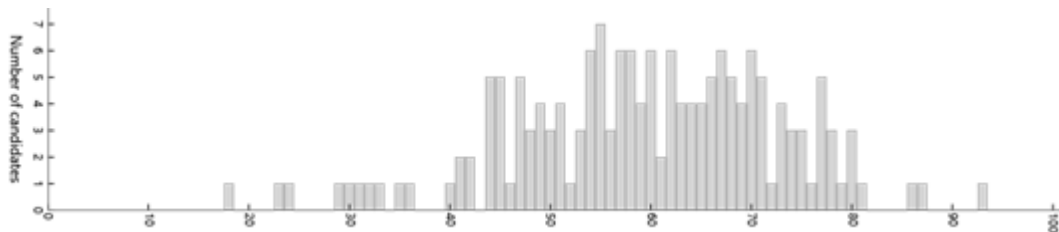
Year	Number who sat all examination components	Number of absentees from all examination components
2021	162	2
2020	162	8
2019	161	0
2018	217	2

The number of candidates sitting and the number attempting each section of the examination can differ as a result of non-attempts across sections of the examination.

Examination score distribution–Practical



Examination score distribution–Written



Summary

Candidates completed a practical and written examination.

Practical examination

Attempted by 162 candidates Mean 69.95% Max 95.45% Min 38.93%

Section means were:

Original solo composition Mean 75.99%

Attempted by 162 candidates Mean 26.60(/35) Max 35.00 Min 15.75

Set solo Mean 68.67%

Attempted by 162 candidates Mean 24.03(/35) Max 35.00 Min 11.20

Structured improvisation Mean 66.12%

Attempted by 162 candidates Mean 13.22(/20) Max 20.00 Min 4.44

Interview Mean 60.97%

Attempted by 162 candidates Mean 6.10(/10) Max 10.00 Min 2.22

Written examination

Attempted by 166 candidates Mean 59.32% Max 93.05% Min 18.22%

Section means were:

Section One: Short answer	Mean 61.16%		
Attempted by 166 candidates	Mean 24.46(/40)	Max 38.05	Min 6.34
Section Two: Extended answer	Mean 58.09%		
Attempted by 166 candidates	Mean 34.86(/60)	Max 55.00	Min 8.75

General comments

Practical examination

Overall, the majority of candidates completed the practical examination, with most understanding the order of the examination. Candidates showed an improvement in the Original solo composition, Set solo and Structured improvisation performances. The Interview remained the weakest section of the practical examination.

Advice for candidates

- Ensure you have a clear understanding of the practical examination requirements and instructions given the *Practical (performance) examination requirements* published on the Dance course page of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority website.
- Be aware that you can explore any genre for the Original solo composition.
- Ensure your choreography is relevant to the theme and intents explored.
- Be clear about the choice of music device for the Original solo composition
- Rehearse the Set solo, so it can be performed at peak performance for the full duration.
- Develop a clear understanding and be able to demonstrate the range of choreographic processes, elements of dance, choreographic devices, and choreographic structure.
- Practise improvisation tasks that explore sections of Original solo composition, Sections of Set solo and a combination of both Original solo and Set solo.
- Listen carefully to the Improvisation task and use the 7-minute preparation time to develop your improvisation.
- Listen carefully to the interview questions and practise analysis questions.

Advice for teachers

- Ensure students have a clear understanding of the practical examination requirements and instructions given the *2022 Practical (performance) examination requirements* published on the Dance course page of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority website.
- Discuss with students the allocated examination preparation time for each performance so that they are aware of their timings.
- Provide guidance for candidates to explore a variety of themes, intents, and genres for their Original solo composition.
- Review each student's Statement of intent prior to the examination.
- Provide guidance for the choice of music devices for the Original solo composition.
- Rehearse the Set solo, so it can be performed for the full duration.
- Ensure that when teaching the Set solo that students develop performance fitness in order to perform at peak performance.
- Provide practice improvisation tasks for the students to explore choreographic process, elements of dance, choreographic devices, and choreographic structure.
- Generate practice improvisation tasks that explore sections of Original solo composition, Sections of Set solo and a combination of both Original solo and Set solo.

- Encourage students to be creative and choose recognisable motifs and movement sequences when exploring sections of the Set solo.
- Encourage students to work on contrast and clear structure for improvisation tasks.
- Provide opportunities to practise the improvisation tasks using the 7-minute preparation time for the candidates to develop their improvisation.
- Provide opportunities for candidates to develop analysis, detailed and in-depth responses for the interview.
- Prepare practice questions regarding rehearsal process, choreographic processes (choreographic devices, choreographic structure, and elements of dance), alignment and safe dance practices.

Written examination

Overall, most candidates completed all the questions in the time allocated. The range of questions allowed success for the candidates. In Section One, candidates demonstrated a good understanding of the stimulus work *Metal*. In Section Two, however, it appeared as though some candidates did not spend sufficient time answering the questions, particularly given the marks allocated.

Advice for candidates

- Practise timed writing activities for examination preparation.
- Complete activities that address all content points in the syllabus.
- Read the questions carefully, unpack and highlight the key points and mark allocation.
- Ensure that you develop an understanding of the choreographic processes, elements of dance, choreographic devices and choreographic structure for case studies.
- Keep historical overview clear and succinct.
- Keep the intent clear and succinct.

Advice for teachers

- Ensure students practise timed writing activities for exam preparation.
- Consider all content of the syllabus is covered as all content can be examined.
- Complete activities that address all content points in the syllabus.
- Ensure that students cover Australian choreographers and companies within their case studies.
- Ensure students develop an understanding of the choreographic processes, elements of dance, choreographic devices and choreographic structure for case studies.
- Practise unpacking the exam questions and the mark allocation.
- Inform students to keep the historical overview and the intent of dance works within case studies clear and succinct.
- Encourage students to review and unpack the marking key to be able to achieve a range of marks.
- Use Dance language and terminology extensively across both practical and theoretical classes.
- Assist students on developing analysis, detailed and in-depth responses as a part of their examination interview section.

Comments on specific sections and questions

Practical examination

Candidates demonstrated a good understanding of the structure and order of the practical examination. All candidates completed each section of the examination, and a full range of marks was awarded. The Interview section was still the weakest section of the practical

components, candidates are encouraged to develop detailed and in-depth responses. Candidates needed to work on developing exam fitness.

Original solo composition (20 Marks)

Candidates demonstrated an improvement in this section. A wide range of themes and intents were presented. The dances were well constructed, and a range of marks were allocated. As outlined in the syllabus the 80-word limit for the statement of choreographic intent should be adhered to. Each criterion showed a small improvement on examination statistics for 2020.

Set solo (25 Marks)

Overall, the Set solo was well known by the candidates. Performance errors occurred towards the end of the Set solo with the increase in difficulty of choreography and as the candidates became tired.

Structured improvisation (9 Marks)

Candidates understood the tasks and were confident in performance. Candidates used the planning time well. All candidates were over the minimum requirement. Candidates need to be able to manipulate both sections from their Original solo composition and the Set solo. Candidates continued to develop a practical understanding of choreographic processes to explore in the structured improvisation.

Interview (9 Marks)

This was the weakest section of the Practical examination. Some candidates were able to unpack the questions and use a range of terminology to respond. Use of dance terminology and language showed some improvement from previous years.

Written examination

Section One: Short answer (41 Marks)

Candidates demonstrated a good understanding of the stimulus material *Metal*. Some candidates were confused about the difference between choreographic devices and elements of dance; the combination of elements confused some candidates.

Section Two: Extended answer (48 Marks)

Candidates responded to all three questions. Questions 5 and 6 were the strongest responses and most popular. Question 7 was the least selected and achieved the lowest overall marks. The first two criteria across all questions were answered well and very detailed by most candidates. The last two criteria in all questions needed to be developed further by many candidates. Most candidates were able to identify structure but found it difficult to discuss how the structure supported the intent of the work. Discussion was also the weakest criterion.