

GRADE 5

Technical Skill - Dance

Candidates will be required to demonstrate a prepared technical combination lasting between 45 and 60 seconds which shows the following steps:

- Front and side kicks
- Front step leap
- Travelling turns
- All demonstrated on both sides

You must demonstrate:

- coordination, control and body alignment
- timing, rhythm, spatial awareness and dynamic variation
- musical interpretation and understanding of character and mood
- performance from memory with fluency, commitment and communication to the audience

Understanding & Reflection

Each candidate must select one question from List A and one question from List B, and present their responses to the questions.

List A:

- What are your character's objectives in the piece?
- Describe the place and time period in which the piece is set.
- Describe the time period in which the piece is set, and a rehearsal process that helped to achieve the feel of the period.

List B:

- What rehearsal processes were used to prepare vocally for either acting or singing (pick one)?
- What rehearsal processes were used to prepare physically for dancing?
- What rehearsal processes were used to develop your characterisation?

GRADE 4

Technical Skill - Acting

Candidates will be arranged into threes and will be required to perform a given scenario lasting between 45 and 60 seconds. The characters and scenarios will be chosen and given by the examiner. The examiner will also provide each candidate with a character status to be considered during the technical skills demonstration. The examiner may stop the performance if the maximum time limit is exceeded.

1. A and B are friends waiting at a bus stop after a Youth Club. It is 10pm. Another friend, C, arrives and tries to persuade A and B to go to a party.
2. A, B and C are competing in a talent show. They are in the waiting room before their audition.

You must demonstrate:

- vocal projection, diction, modulation and phrasing
- facial expression, movement and gesture to reflect character and mood
- interpretation of character, with understanding of situation and feelings
- awareness of the performance environment, including setting, other characters and audience
- performance from memory with fluency and focus

Understanding & Reflection

Each candidate must select one question from List A and one question from List B, and present their responses to the questions.

List A:

- Describe the setting of the piece and the time period in which it is set.
- Identify the writer and the composer of the piece and when it was written.
- Describe how the time period and/or setting influenced your performance.

List B:

- What did you find the most challenging part of the rehearsal process? Explain why.
- What was the most challenging part of the performance for you today? What did you do to meet that challenge?
- Pick any two characters in the performance and describe their similarities and/or differences.

GRADE 3

Technical Skill - Dance

Candidates will be required to demonstrate a prepared technical combination lasting between 30 and 45 seconds which includes the following steps:

- Step ball change with arms in opposition
- Jumps or leaps
- Front kicks
- All demonstrated on both sides

You must demonstrate:

- coordination, control and body alignment
- timing, rhythm, spatial awareness and dynamic variation
- musical interpretation and understanding of character and mood
- performance from memory with fluency, commitment and communication to the audience

Understanding & Reflection

Each candidate must select one question from List A and one question from List B, and present their responses to the questions.

List A:

- Choose a specific scene. Identify and explain your character's feelings throughout the scene.
- Choose a song from the performance. How is your character feeling in that song, and why do they feel that way?
- Identify an emotion your character felt at any point in the performance, and describe how they showed that emotion.

List B:

- Describe any processes used in rehearsal to help learn and remember your lines, lyrics or choreography (pick one).
- Describe any challenges you faced during the performance as an individual or as a group.
- Identify and explain the relationship between any two characters in the piece.