# Y10 End of Year Exam Preparation: GCSE Dance

## Exam(s):

The assessment is 1 hour and 30 minutes.

The assessment is out of 80 marks.

Students must answer all questions.

The assessment consists of multiple-choice, short-answer, and two extended writing questions.

# **Section A**

AO3 relates to the knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills. Questions will relate to a given stimulus for you to write a response.

# **Hypothetical choreography question:**

- Choreographic intent
- Motif description and explanation in relation to a choreography intent
- Motif development
- Action / space / dynamics / relationships
- Dance structure
- Performance environment
- Accompaniment

# All in relation to the 'Hypothetical choreography question'

- Choreographic process definitions / examples / how to improve
- Performance skills definitions / examples / how to improve
- Physical, Technical, Expressive, Mental (in rehearsal and performance)
- Safe working practice (in rehearsal and performance)

# **Section B**

## Your own work:

\* Set phrase Breathe (or Flux) \* duet performance piece \* choreography.

# \_\_\_\_\_

AO4 relates to the critical appreciation of own work.
Questions will relate to your own experience of performance, or choreography or both from within the course.

# Set phrase Breathe (or Flux) & Duet performance piece:

### Physical skills:

 Posture, alignment, balance, coordination, control, flexibility, mobility, strength, stamina, extension, isolation.

#### Technical skills:

- Action content (eg travel, turn, elevation, gesture, stillness, use of different body parts, floor work, transference of weight.)
- Dynamic content (eg fast/slow, sudden/sustained, acceleration/deceleration, strong/light, direct/indirect, flowing/abrupt)
- Spatial content (eg pathways, levels, directions, size of movement, patterns, spatial design)
- Relationship content for duet/trio performance only (eg lead and follow, mirroring, action and reaction, accumulation, complement and contrast, counterpoint, contact, formations)
- Timing and rhythmic content
- Movement in a stylistically accurate way.

## Expressive skills:

• Projection, focus, spatial awareness, facial expression, phrasing.

# For duet/trio performance only:

 Musicality, sensitivity to other dancers, communication of choreographic intent, including mood(s), meaning(s), idea(s), theme(s) and/or style/style fusion(s).

#### **Mental skills**

In rehearsal:

 Systematic repetition, mental rehearsal, rehearsal discipline, planning of rehearsal, response to feedback, capacity to improve.

# In performance:

• Movement memory, commitment, concentration, confidence.

## Safe working practice

In rehearsal:

- Safe execution of the movements
- Appropriate dancewear, including: footwear, hairstyle and absence of jewellery

### In performance:

• Warming up, cooling down, nutrition, hydration.

# **Choreography:**

**Actions**: travel, turn, elevation, Gesture, Stillness, use of different body parts, floor work, transfer of weight.

**Dynamics**: fast/slow, sudden/sustained, acceleration/deceleration, strong/light, direct/indirect, flowing/abrupt

**Space**: pathways, levels, directions, size of movement, patterns, spatial design,

**Relationships**: lead and follow, mirroring, action and reaction, accumulation, complement and contrast, counterpoint, contact, formations **Choreographic process**: researching, improvising, generating, selecting, developing, structuring, refining and synthesising

**Structuring devices and form**: binary, ternary, rondo, narrative, episodic, beginning/middle/end, unity, logical sequence, transitions

**Choreographic devices:** motif and development, repetition, contrast, highlights, climax, manipulation of number, unison and canon

**Aural setting**: song, instrumental, orchestral, spoken word, silence, natural sound, found sound, body percussion. Effects on choreographic outcomes: mood and atmosphere, contrast and variety, structure, relationship to theme/idea

**Performance environment**: proscenium arch, end stage, site-sensitive (ie designed for non-theatre spaces), in-the-round

**Communication of choreographic intent:** mood(s), meaning(s), idea(s), theme(s), style/style fusion(s).

Discuss all of these in relation to your choreographic choices / why and how

did it communicate your dance idea.

# Section C

## Five professional set works:

A Linha Curva, Emancipation of expressionism, Within her eyes and Infra

AO4 relates to the critical appreciation of professional works and you will answer questions relating to the GCSE Dance Anthology.

## **Features of production:**

- Staging/set eg projection, furniture, structures, backdrop, screens and features of these such as colour, texture, shape, decoration, materials
- **Lighting** eg colour, placement, direction, angles etc
- **Properties** eg size, shape, materials, how used etc
- **Costume** (including footwear, masks, make-up and accessories): features such as colour, texture, material, flow, shape, line, weight, decoration and how they define character or gender, identify dancers, enhance or sculpt the body and enhance the action
- **Dancers** (number, gender)
- **Aural settings** eg song, instrumental, orchestral, spoken word, silence, natural sound, found sound, body percussion, style, structure and musical elements such as tone, pitch and rhythm
- Dance for camera e.g. placement, angle, proximity, special effects.

## **Performance environment:**

- Proscenium arch
- End stage
- Site-sensitive
- In-the-round.

## Choreographic approaches

As outlined in each interview

## **Choreographic content including:**

- Movement content (actions, dynamics, space and relationships) as per the knowledge, skills and understanding for choreography specified in Choreography
- Structuring devices and form (binary, ternary, rondo, narrative, episodic, beginning/middle/end, unity, logical sequence, transitions)
- Choreographic devices (motif and development, repetition, contrast, highlights, climax, manipulation of number, unison and canon).

# **Choreographic intent including:**

• Mood(s), meaning(s), idea(s), theme(s), style/style fusion(s).

To critically appreciate professional works through describing, analysing, interpreting, evaluating and reflecting, students must know and understand:

- The similarities and differences between the defining characteristics of each dance (as above)
- The contribution of choreography (as above), performance and features of production to the audience's understanding of the work
- The relationships between choreography, performance and features

- of production (as above) and the ways in which these have been used together to enhance audience understanding of the choreographic intention
- The purpose or significance of different performance environments in which the dance was created and performed.