

GCE

Edexcel Advanced Subsidiary
GCE in Performing Arts (Single
Award) (8781)

Edexcel Advanced GCE in
Performing Arts (Single Award)
(9781)

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Sample assessment materials

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Authorised by Jim Dobson
Prepared by Brian Ingram

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Contents

Instructions for the application of commission briefs	1
Unit 3: Performing to a Commission	2
Unit 7: Production Delivery	3
Assessment	4
Assessment criteria – Unit 3: Performing to a Commission	5
Assessment criteria – Unit 7: Production Delivery	6

Instructions for the application of commission briefs

- 1 The assessment for AS *Unit 3: Performing to a Commission* and A2 *Unit 7: Production Delivery* will be in response to a choice of *Commission Briefs* for *Unit 3* and a single *Production Brief* for *Unit 7* set by Edexcel. These briefs will be posted on the Edexcel website (www.edexcel.org.uk) in September at the beginning of each year of the course.
 - 2 Apart from this document there will be **no examination paper** for the externally assessed units.
 - 3 Assessment will be carried out by centre assessors, whose decisions will be subject to moderation by Edexcel's external moderators. All moderation will be carried out at centre visits, and will take place at the same time as the moderation of the portfolio units, in the summer (May/June) moderation period.
 - 4 Performance groups will be between three and 12 students and performance length between 30 and 60 minutes.
 - 5 The performance may take place in the centre or at any other suitable venue.
 - 6 The length of preparation and rehearsal time is left to the discretion of centres, but it should be noted that both *Units 3* and *7* are designed to an allocation 60-hour preparation and rehearsal period.
 - 7 All group performances must be recorded on video and be available to the moderator as requested.
 - 8 Centres should note that these units are moderated in summer only, and that there is no November or January series.
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Unit 3: Performing to a Commission

One of the following **Commission Briefs** must be selected.

Example 1

Your local Education Authority has asked you to create a TIE (Theatre in Education) project to promote citizenship in the community.

Example 2

A charity has approached you to produce a performance event to promote their mission statement. The event should appropriately represent the goals of the charity and be presented to a suitable audience.

Example 3

Take a headline or article from today's newspaper (national or local). Use this as a starting point in developing a performance event.

The performance material for *Unit 3* may be original work or make use of existing material.

The experience gained in *Unit 2: Planning for an Event* should be used in the process for the work in this unit.

All planning should involve consideration of:

- the target audience
 - the performance venue
 - resources.
-

Unit 7: Production Delivery

The following Production Brief must form the basis of the work for *Unit 7*.

Example

You have been commissioned to produce a performance event to an appropriate audience using the theme of *DIFFERENCE*.

The performance material for *Unit 7* requires an exploration of an existing piece, or pieces, from a repertoire, a text or score as a basis for the development of the performance work.

The experience gained in *Unit 2: Planning for an Event*, *Unit 5: Advanced Performance Practice* or *Unit 6: Advanced Production Practice* should be used in the process for the work in this unit.

All planning should involve consideration of:

- the target audience
 - the performance venue
 - resources.
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Assessment

Edexcel will appoint an external moderator to visit your centre/venue on an appointed date to assess internal and external units on a sampling basis. All work should be kept at the centre unless requested by Edexcel to do otherwise.

The period of the visit will be during May and June of the summer series of examinations. All work (portfolios for internally assessed units and the performance) should be completed for the day of the external moderator's visit.

The external moderator will assess, with the teacher, the performances of groups containing the highest scoring candidate and the lowest scoring candidate, on the day of the visit. The teacher will then assess the rest of the cohort based on the advice given from the external moderator on subsequent days. Where the cohort number is small, it may be possible for the external moderator to view all performances with the teacher.

The centre has up to a week after the external moderator visit to submit marks to Edexcel.

Centres will be given notification of their external moderator to arrange a visit date, by the end of April in the year of the assessment.

There is no opportunity to have units assessed during the January series of examinations.

Assessment criteria – Unit 3: Performing to a Commission

	Mark Band 1	Mark Band 2	Mark Band 3	Mark awarded
(a) (AO2)	Select skills that show awareness of the demands of the original commission. (0-6)	Select relevant skills that give an effective response to the original commission. (7-9)	Select a wide range of appropriate skills to give an excellent response to the original commission, allowing you to show imagination and flair in a sophisticated interpretation of the chosen material. (10-12)	12
(a) (AO2)	Acquire an acceptable level of skill and technique sufficient to the demands of the commission and perform or support rehearsed material with accuracy. (0-6)	Demonstrate sound levels of skill and technique, which you use with clarity and confidence. (7-9)	Show that you have acquired and, are in command of, an excellent range of skills and techniques which you employ in a coherent and convincing manner. (10-12)	
(b + c) (AO3)	Realise a performance employing skills and technique appropriately. Your work makes a contribution to the ensemble and the success of the piece. (0-9)	Demonstrate an ability to perform or support rehearsed material with accuracy and fluency and an attempt to engage with the audience. (10-14)	Have fully realised a performance that is strongly rooted in your commitment and ability to develop or support rehearsed material. (15-18)	
(b + c) (AO3)	Show awareness of others but your ability to communicate, both with performers on stage and with the audience, is limited by some lapses in technique and concentration. (0-9)	Realise a performance that makes an appreciable contribution to the overall quality of the work. Your efforts support the work of the group as a whole and you work with some focus to communicate the concepts inherent in the performance. (10-14)	Show that your professionalism and significant contribution are key elements in the overall quality of the work. You contribute to the communication of a very clear and convincing performance showing full appreciation of the concepts inherent in the piece (15-18)	
Total marks				60

Assessment criteria – Unit 7: Production Delivery

	Mark Band 1	Mark Band 2	Mark Band 3	Mark awarded
(a) (AO1)	Show some awareness and understanding of how the performing arts industry responds to a production brief. (0-6)	Show good awareness and understanding of how the performing arts industry responds to a production brief. (8-11)	Show thorough awareness and understanding of how the performing arts industry responds to a production brief. (12-15)	15
(b) (AO2)	Demonstrate a basic level of skill and technique relevant to the demands of the Production brief. (0-7)	Demonstrate a sound level of skill and technique relevant to the demands of the Production brief. (8-11)	Demonstrate a full range of skills and techniques used in a coherent manner to clearly support the demands of the Production brief. (12-15)	15
(d) (AO3)	Demonstrate basic communication between members of the production team in a performance context employing skills and techniques appropriately. (0-7)	Demonstrate accurate and fluent communication between members of the production team in a performance context employing skills and techniques appropriately. (8-11)	Demonstrate full communication between members of the production team in a performance context employing skills and techniques with a high degree of flair and imagination. (12-15)	15
(e) (AO3)	Communication with the audience will be limited and the style of the work not always fully appropriate. (0-7)	Communication with the audience will be appropriate and the style of the work clear and appropriate. (8-11)	Communication with the audience will be excellent and the style of the work fully appropriate. (12-15)	15
Total marks				60

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Telephone: 01623 467467
Fax: 01623 450481
Email: publications@linneydirect.com

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