

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award

Performing Arts

Unit 1: Individual Showcase

Learner work should be submitted to your allocated Examiner by Tuesday 15 May 2018

Paper Reference

20512E

You should ensure you have read the relevant unit content from the specification and adhere to the guidance in Section 9: External assessment.

Instructions

- The tasks included in this document should be given to the teacher-assessor for confidential reference in order to plan for learners' development and response to the task.
- The response to the progression opportunity tasks will take place under controlled conditions; guidance on the controls for assessment is provided in this document and the specification.
- There are 30 guided learning hours (GLH) allocated to this unit. No more than two hours should be spent completing the letter of application; the final recorded progression opportunity will take between five and ten minutes, depending on which is selected. The remaining time of the 30 GLH should be used for teaching of the unit and preparation of the tasks.

Information

- The total mark for this assessment is 42.
- The qualification pathways are as follows:
 - Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts (Acting)
 - Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts (Dance)
 - Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts (Production)
 - Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)
 - Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts (Music Performance).

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Teacher Instructions

You should ensure you have read the relevant unit content from the specification and adhere to the guidance in *Section 9: External assessment*. You must also read the *Administrative Support Guide (ASG)* available on the website.

The nature of the work

Learners will complete a letter of application and a presentation and/or audition in response to a progression opportunity provided by Pearson. There will be a choice of four progression opportunities in each academic year.

The progression opportunities provide a selection of realistic employment, training and educational scenarios.

Each progression opportunity has specific guidelines about what learners are required to prepare for their presentation and/or audition.

Assessment authenticity

The evidence each learner submits for assessment must be individual and authentic.

As a teacher, you will be asked to confirm that:

- learners have provided an authentic response to the stimulus
- their work has been supervised and controlled properly
- you have retained records of the conduct of the assessments.

Alongside the registration process, your examinations officer will need to advise us that you intend for learners to sit the external assessment, by making an 'entry' for the learner.

You will be issued with an attendance register and guidance once entries are made.

The main controls

- Teachers should not give support for work carried out under controlled conditions.
- Learners are not permitted to discuss their work with others during controlled conditions.
- Letter of application: The final writing up of the application documentation for Unit 1 must be carried out under controlled conditions with the supervising teacher. Learners can refer to their own factual information that they have prepared themselves. The information can contain brief bullet points or mind-maps of ideas to be covered but must not include fully-formed sentences or phrases that could be used directly in their letter. It must not exceed two sides of A4. Teachers must ensure that all hard copy notes learners bring into the classroom are their own work.
- Presentation and/or audition: a single unedited DVD recording must be submitted for each learner. Recordings of presentations may be paused to allow learners to move to different parts of the learning space, as appropriate to their needs. Recordings should not be edited, amended or manipulated. Learners may not be assisted during the recording.
- Learners must identify themselves clearly at the beginning of the recording by stating:
 - their full name
 - their learner number
 - their centre name
 - their centre number
 - the number of the progression opportunity (and option if relevant) they have chosen.

Learner Instructions

Selection and preparation

The four individual progression opportunities provide a selection of realistic employment, training and educational scenarios.

Each individual opportunity gives you specific guidelines about what you are required to prepare for a presentation and/or audition.

You must choose **one** of the four progression opportunities and complete the work required to provide an individual showcase, namely:

- a letter of application
- a presentation and/or audition.

You should discuss with your teacher the controls under which your work must be completed before you start any work.

Performance and submission

Letter of application

Your teacher will arrange a formal time for you to complete a letter of application for your chosen showcase. You must include your:

- full name
- learner number
- centre name at the top of your letter
- centre number at the top of your letter.

Once completed, your letter should be converted to a PDF.

Your work must be your own and you will be asked to complete a declaration when your work is submitted.

Presentation and/or audition

Your teacher will also arrange a formal time for you to record your presentation and/or audition and will save it in electronic format, for example DVD, Windows Movie Player or Real Time Player file types.

At the beginning of the recording you must clearly state:

- your full name
- your learner number
- your centre name
- your centre number
- the number of the progression opportunity you have chosen to complete. If there are any options available within your chosen progression opportunity, these should also be stated.

Progression Opportunity 1: Production Skills

We are the region's largest multi-arts and conference venue, presenting a diverse range of music, dance and theatre. We also host a resident orchestra.

We are looking for skilled lighting and sound technicians for the **'All Our Lives Festival'**.

The **'All Our Lives Festival'** will include professionals and amateurs, companies and individuals, all with a common goal to show their talents and to help us celebrate the cultural diversity of the region and the lives of the people living here.

Have you got the skills to support the sound or lighting for this sensational programme of events?

We need technicians to prepare, set up and operate the sound and lighting.

You must be able to set up and operate **either** sound or lighting equipment quickly and safely and work with numerous performers with varying levels of experience.

You will need to know how to set up and operate sound **or** lighting equipment appropriate for a multi-arts festival.

You should prepare:

- a letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions
- a presentation, lasting 8–10 minutes, communicating creative and effective ideas. It must include a 5 minute demonstration of your technical work in the production area of lighting **or** sound, which should be specific to the requirements of the progression opportunity.

Evidence of the following can be included in the presentation and demonstration:

- For lighting – rigging, focusing and programming lights; documentation that can be used before, during and after the performances, for example cue sheets; the use of technical language and references to lighting equipment; ability to respond to the needs of the acts.
- For sound – preparing and setting up sound equipment, to include PA, recorded soundtracks for before and after the event; provision of playback for music that acts have selected for the event; documentation that could be used during performances, for example a sound cue sheet; the use of technical language and references to sound equipment.

Progression Opportunity 2: Performance

Are you our next 'Star Turn'?

Star Turn is an established management company currently seeking new performers to represent.

Star Turn places performers in a variety of exciting performing arts shows and events and is currently recruiting talented and versatile performers for touring work in cities across Europe.

Could this be your next step to stardom?

We are looking for multitalented performers for short-term contracts.

You **must** demonstrate performance skills in at least **two** of the following areas:

Comedy

Dance

Speciality act

Singing or playing a musical instrument

You will need to perform **two** skilful and imaginative pieces that you think could make you our next Star Turn! Come along and perform **two** audition pieces that will make us sign you up today!

You should prepare:

- a letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions
- an audition – you must demonstrate **two contrasting** pieces of performance, as detailed in the progression opportunity, each lasting 2–3 minutes. These **may** include:
 - comedy act – pre-existing material taken from a play, sketch or comedy revue, or original material
 - solo dance – based on pre-existing work or an original choreographed piece
 - speciality act – demonstration of skills and techniques such as circus skills, illusions and close-hand tricks, ventriloquism or impersonations of famous people
 - musical performance – for example a vocal or instrumental piece unaccompanied or accompanied. Work can be original or from existing repertoire.

Progression Opportunity 3: Community

**Our Company
presents
'Just listen for once!'**

A new performance giving young people a voice.

Our Company offers young people the opportunity to present creative work that gives them a voice in their community.

'Just listen for once!' is our latest production using the theme of 'youth issues and the community'. We are currently seeking young people to be involved in both the performance and workshops.

The work aims to raise awareness of the issues young people face on a daily basis in our community and the performance and workshops will take place in a range of community spaces.

Do you have the talent and passion to work on this groundbreaking project and to engage your wider community?

You will need to show us that you can work in **one** of the following areas:

Acting

Dance

Singing and/or playing a musical instrument

Design for costume, set, props, masks or make-up

Technical elements – sound and/or lighting

You should prepare:

- a letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions
- **one** option from Section A and **one** option from Section B.

Section A

Choose **one** of the following options:

- A1. Acting audition – you should perform a 2–3 minute extract from a published text or a pre-existing play suitable for the theme and relevant target audience.
- A2. Dance audition – you should perform a dance, lasting 1–2 minutes, based on pre-existing work or a piece choreographed specifically for the project, suitable for the theme and relevant target audience.
- A3. Music audition – you should perform a 2–3 minute extract from a pre-existing piece. This could be from a published score or an extract from a musical work that is suitable for the theme and relevant target audience.
- A4. Technical demonstration – you should deliver a 4–5 minute demonstration showing your own practical and imaginative technical work in one of the production areas of lighting and/or sound; costume; set; props; masks or make-up appropriate for performance and workshop activities in a range of community spaces.

Section B

Using the theme of ‘youth issues and the community’, you should prepare a 5 minute presentation for **one** of the following options:

- B1. Ideas for practical drama workshop activities – this should include explanations of the purpose of the activities and/or practical demonstrations of the activities.
- B2. Ideas for practical dance workshop activities – this should include explanations of the purpose of the activities and/or practical demonstrations of the activities.
- B3. Ideas for practical music/singing workshop activities – this should include explanations of the purpose of the activities and/or practical demonstrations of the activities.
- B4. Design ideas for production elements – this should include explanations of the production concept and/or plans and examples of design ideas for any of the following elements: set, props, costume, make-up, masks, sound, lighting, multimedia.

Progression Opportunity 4: Education

The East & West College for the Performing Arts is recruiting for its world-renowned courses.

We are inviting applications from gifted and capable young people ready to move on to the next stage of their training in the performing arts.

You will need to showcase your skills and creativity in performance **or** production.

If you are accepted, our courses will help you to reach your goal!

We offer the following pathways:

Acting
Dance
Music performance
Musical theatre
Production arts (Design)

You must prepare an audition or presentation on the theme of 'Contradiction'.

You will need to show your skills associated with the chosen pathway in **two** imaginative pieces of performance, or a presentation, in response to the theme.

You should prepare appropriate material for your chosen pathway:

Dance

- A letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions.
- An audition, selecting **two contrasting** dance pieces of your own choosing, each lasting 1–2 minutes, each in response to the theme '**Contradiction**'.

Acting

- A letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions.
- An audition, selecting **two contrasting** extracts from any two contrasting published texts of your own choosing, each lasting 2–3 minutes, each in response to the theme '**Contradiction**'.

Musical theatre

- A letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions.
- An audition, selecting **two contrasting** extracts from musical theatre works of your own choosing, each lasting 2–3 minutes, each in response to the theme '**Contradiction**'. At least one of the extracts must include a dance sequence.

Music performance

- A letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions.
- An audition, selecting **two contrasting** music pieces of your own choosing, each lasting 2–3 minutes, each in response to the theme '**Contradiction**'.

Production arts (Design)

- A letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions.
- A presentation, lasting 8–10 minutes, communicating creative and effective ideas, showing examples of design work, including preparatory planning and realised designs for a production of your own choosing in response to the theme **'Contradiction'**.

This could include explanations of the production concept and/or plans and examples of design/production ideas for any of the following elements: set, props, costume, lighting, sound, masks, make-up or multimedia.