

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS LEVEL 3 (2016)

Examiners' report

PERFORMING ARTS



Unit 1 January 2019 series

Version 1

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Introduction

Our examiners' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on candidates' performance in the examinations. They provide useful guidance for future candidates. The reports will include a general commentary on candidates' performance, identify technical aspects examined in the questions and highlight good performance and where performance could be improved. The reports will also explain aspects which caused difficulty and why the difficulties arose, whether through a lack of knowledge, poor examination technique, or any other identifiable and explainable reason.

Where overall performance on a question/question part was considered good, with no particular areas to highlight, these questions have not been included in the report. A full copy of the question paper can be downloaded from OCR.

Unit 1 overview

Unit 1 is a 120GLH synoptic unit intended to be assessed at the conclusion of the programme when candidates have developed a clear vocational route into the performing arts and when their knowledge and understanding of the industry has been acquired.

The Portfolio

This is the written response. This can be presented in a formal report style, or be less formally written, however the content should be presented in a clear and logical structure that is easy to follow. It is acceptable to include sections using bullet points. Where straightforward language is used, it can be clearer to follow, however subject specific terminology should be used when appropriate.

The quality of the response will be linked to how relevant it is to the given employment opportunity. Therefore, the written portfolio should be in direct response to the job advertisement that is given and changes each series.

Any wider industry research can be used to support comments and findings but large sections that simply communicate general employment conditions, and do not go on to support a specific point, are less useful. All sources should be appropriately referenced.

The 'pitch' and audition/presentation

The pitch and audition are ideally presented on one continuous recording. Responses that move from pitch to audition as one coherent response, will be credited. Likewise, credit will be given for auditions that are placed in context, and demonstrate relevance, to the given employment opportunity.

It is centre choice as to how much technical support the pitch / audition is given, or requires. Adding costume, lighting and other aspects are production support can be applied but again, the relevance to the employment opportunity should be considered.

The pitch is an individual response and the teacher should not be involved, for example asking key questions to prompt the candidate. The pitch can be structured in a way that takes the given bullet points in turn, or they can re-order the content as they see fit. In responses that take each point in turn, it is often clearer to follow. Again, the pitch should be linked to the given scenario and employment opportunity and the level of relevance is considered.

The audition piece is also an individual response and therefore should not include other performers. If a musical accompaniment is required this is acceptable. If technical equipment needs to be operated during a technical presentation, this must be done by the candidate and not by another candidate or teacher/technician.

The camera should be in a fixed position, and not pan or zoom during the recording.

The following considerations may be useful in preparation for examination:

Focused research should be undertaken to gain a wider appreciation of the type of employment opportunity that is being offered/responded to. This research should also take into consideration the performing arts discipline and vocational route being followed.

Performing Arts terminology should be used accurately throughout. Knowledge, skills and techniques should be drawn from the wider learning opportunities of the course, as this is a synoptic unit.

Specific examples of relevant skills and experience should be given to support the explanation of how skills gained have been acquired and how they can be further developed by taking part in the proposed job role.

A detailed and logical progression route should be given, that links to the skills, experience and interests of the candidate.

The pitch and audition / technical presentation should be delivered in an engaging manner and demonstrate relevant knowledge, skills and techniques.

Pre-release

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS

- This pre-release material must be opened and given to candidates on receipt.
- The candidates will be expected to commence research in preparation for a personal pitch and an audition/presentation piece in response to the advertisement.
- During the 2-week assessment window, the tasks must be carried out under controlled conditions.
- Candidates will require access to a camera to perform their pitch during the assessment window.
- Please refer to the Assessment Guidance within the unit.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LEARNERS

- Answer **all** the questions.
- Upon receipt of this pre-release, you are expected to commence research in preparation for the portfolio, personal pitch and an audition/presentation piece in response to the advertisement.
- You will produce your portfolio, personal pitch and audition/presentation piece under controlled conditions.
- You are permitted to take in a maximum of 4 A4 sides of research notes which have been gathered during the research phase.
- Work must be produced using IT.

INFORMATION FOR LEARNERS

- The total mark for the completion of this task is **60**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- This document consists of **4** pages.

Scenario

Out and About Performance Company*

Out and About Performance Company are seeking talented practitioners to join them for their latest production 'Flooding Back!'. This production includes a range of different performance styles and acts, there is something for everyone.

We require capable people looking for their next big break, and seek to appoint a range of performers and technicians.

Out and About Performance Company has secured third sector funding for this production and can offer six month fixed term contracts to cover the period of the regional tour.

'Flooding Back!' will tour to residential and community care settings serving the region's elderly population, with this trailblazing reminiscence performance project.

If you are ready to apply your skills and talents to work that can really make a difference, then this is for you!

Rise to the challenge and make a difference to our elderly audiences in a range of performance settings.

"The pleasures of life are found in the memories we have forgotten." Director

Love what you do? Think performance can make a difference? Apply now!

Question 1

* **Out and About Performance Company** is a fictitious company.

With reference to one of the roles mentioned above, you are required to:

- 1 Prepare to pitch for one of the roles mentioned in the advertisement above. Your preparation must include a portfolio (guide of 1500-2500 words) of documentation including:
 - introductory comments on your chosen vocational role including its current employment conditions and promotional methods. These comments should be made with reference to the advertisement and the role applied for
 - a report on the economic, social and cultural context of the event outlined in the advertisement
 - the proposed materials for progression into your chosen vocational role including any ideas and adaptations that you have made to meet the specific demands of the advertisement
 - your overall progression strategy and how this job opportunity fits into these longer-term plans
 - references to the skills, knowledge and understanding gained as part of your learning programme

[24 marks]

Question 2

- 2 Pitch a response to the advertisement to the camera (maximum 10 minutes). Your pitch should include answers to the following questions [6 marks for each]:
- (a) Why have you applied for this project?
 - (b) What role are you interested in and how will this contribute to the project?
 - (c) How will the experience and knowledge that you have gained while on your course be relevant to this project?
 - (d) What is your progression strategy for the next five years?
 - (e) How do you think working on this project will contribute to your progression route?

[30 marks]

Question 3

- 3 Audition/presentation piece - present an example of your work to the camera, which is relevant to the advertisement and the role applied (maximum 5 minutes).

[6 marks]

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