

## **CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS LEVEL 3 (2016)**

*Examiners' report*

# **PERFORMING ARTS**




05850–05853, 05876

## **Unit 1 January 2020 series**

Version 1

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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.

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### **ExamBuilder**

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### **Online post series external feedback**

Keep an eye out for updates on our post series feedback on Exams for Cambridge Technicals Webinars available in the autumn term.

## Paper Unit 1 series overview

For this series, in line with the assessment requirements for this unit, an employment opportunity was given as part of the pre-release task.

This opportunity was the stimulus for a written portfolio, a pitch to camera and an audition piece. The focus of the opportunity this series was to be part of Downtown Civic Hall's celebration event. The full 'advert' is available at the end of this report for your reference.

The response overall will ideally have an underpinning awareness of what is required to work in the performing arts sector.

It is hoped the following comments and observations will be helpful to you.

The tone of the portfolio, pitch and audition should have an underpinning promotional tone and aim to engage the 'employer'.

A clearly identified role, such as performer or technician should be stated, and the response should be relevant to this role. Progression routes, skills and experience should all be relevant to the chosen role.

It is helpful when the wider context of the employment opportunity is explored and understood.

Asking questions about the overarching aims of the event, the target audience, the funding and other factors will be helpful to focus the response and keep the information relevant.

It will be helpful when referring to experience, if links can be made to how the skills gained can be transferred to this opportunity and the world of work.

Further comments are made under each of the three sections: written portfolio, pitch to camera and audition.

## Question 1

### **Downtown Civic Hall\***

Downtown Civic Hall is delighted to announce that its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations are to go ahead in style. This will be a great opportunity to celebrate this well-known market town. Here in Downtown, the arts play a major role in bringing together a diverse community.

We are now inviting applications from a range of performing arts practitioners to join us for what promises to be a spectacular programme of performance events. The work will be for both indoor and outdoor performance spaces and cover a range of different styles as well as outreach workshops and fringe events.

We want to hear from a range of performers, arts administrators and technicians who feel they are ready to take on this opportunity.

Downtown Civic Hall is being supported by a large local authority grant to fund this celebration. We are also looking for income-generating acts that can work in harmony with the town. Freelance contracts will be offered for all roles.

The outreach workshops will be a way to involve everyone in this once-in-a-lifetime celebration and continue to make Downtown the place to be.

Wait no longer, it's time to celebrate!

Apply now to join us in celebrating the place where we all love to hang out!

\* **Downtown Civic Hall** is a fictitious venue

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]**

The written portfolio is looking for several areas of knowledge and understanding and has 24 marks available. The guide of 1500 to 2500 words is only a guide but on the whole responses fitted within this.

The written response ideally acts as a wider context to the pitch to camera.

The response should go through a refinement process, in order to be relevant and clear, rather than a generic report on employment terms and conditions.

Where research takes place, it should be to directly inform the response. All sources should be cited appropriately. The validity and reliability of the sources should also be considered, for example for a performer in the UK, using facts and information relating to another country may mean the information is not valid.

Progression routes for the chosen role will be current and detailed, in order to demonstrate a clear appreciation of how to move into employment in the sector.

A clear and fluent structure and the clear and appropriate use of performing arts terminology will be beneficial.

## Question 2 (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)

- 2 Pitch a response to camera for this advertisement (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]**

A maximum time of up to 10 minutes is given, however it does not mean the whole time must be used; the quality and refinement of how well the pitch makes connections to skills and experience and how well these are promoted will be important.

The pitch is an opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of how performing arts practitioners promote themselves, and to replicate professional practice as much as possible.

The pitch will have a clear awareness of the context of the given opportunity and be a chance to apply knowledge and understanding to a specific scenario.

Notes can be referred to however in order to engage with the employer, it is helpful if it is not simply read, in order to really engage the person watching, really try to get the job!

## Question 3

- 3** Audition/presentation piece. Present an example of your work to camera, which is relevant to the advertisement and the role for which you are applying (maximum 5 minutes).

**[6 marks]**

It is helpful when the audition flows from the pitch, as a way of 'showing' the skills that have been highlighted as part of the portfolio and pitch.

This is an individual audition, and although there are exceptions, such as an accompanist for a musician/singer, the audition should not include other people.

A succinct, well-prepared audition that has relevance for the opportunity is what is being looked for, demonstrating technical ability and promotional intent.

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