

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS LEVEL 3 (2016)

Examiners' report

PERFORMING ARTS

05850–05853, 05876

Unit 1 January 2021 series

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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.

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Unit 1 series overview

This series a pre-released set task was issued, giving an employment opportunity for candidates to respond to.

The level of demand was comparable with all previous series. The employment opportunity enabled responses that could demonstrate understanding of the unit content, in an applied vocational context.

The employment opportunity acted as a stimulus for candidates to respond to by submitting a written portfolio, a pitch to camera and an audition piece.

The employment opportunity this series was to be part of a Performing Arts Collective, and to be part of an event to celebrate the role of the performing arts in the local area.

The given scenario provides an opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the context of employment in the performing arts industry.

It is hoped the following points and observations relating to successful, and less successful, responses will be helpful to you.

<i>Candidates who did well on this paper generally did the following:</i>	<i>Candidates who did less well on this paper generally did the following:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopted a promotional tone that would be likely to engage a potential employer. • Identified a particular role, such as performer or technician and used this consistently to relate their skills, experience and progression routes to. • Took time to consider the wider context for this type of employment in the industry. • Prepared a relevant and technically accomplished audition piece. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated only a basic appreciation of promotional intent . • Did not identify a specific role and/or swapped role between tasks and the examples they gave. • Misunderstood some of the employment types or contexts. • Performed an audition piece that either lacked relevance or was not technically of an adequate standard.

Section A overview

The employment opportunity invited candidates to apply for a role with Performing Arts Collective (a fictitious organisation used for the purpose of this task).

Performing Arts Collective was described as a new and dynamic organisation who aim to highlight the positive impact the arts have on the economy.

The local council have supported an event through public sector funding. The event is aimed at people of all ages.

The employment goes on to explain they are seeking go-ahead individuals for a range of performance and technical roles.

Question 1

- 1 Prepare to pitch for one of the roles mentioned. Your preparation must include a portfolio of documentation (guide of 1500–2500 words) 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 the opportunity for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of employment opportunities in the performing arts.

The guide of 1500 to 2500 words is only a guide but on the whole responses fitted within this.

The work seen was on the whole was organised, clear to follow and written with some consideration of promotional tone.

The written portfolio is an opportunity to provide a broad context for the pitch to camera. Research should help shape the content, so it shows relevance to the scenario given.

The work seen covered a research process that ranged from very generic to more focused and analytical. Most written portfolios referenced sources appropriately.

The progression route should also be relevant to the role identified and be informed by relevant sources of information.

The most successful written portfolios used performing arts terminology and had a clear structure.

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]

The pitch to camera should demonstrate clear promotional intent. The pitch should focus on the identified role and be consistently relevant to the given employment opportunity.

There is a guide of 10 minutes for the pitch. It is acceptable to use notes however, the pitch should not simply be the written portfolio read to camera.

This is a chance to demonstrate self-promotion skills in keeping with professional practice in the performing arts industry.

The work seen was mostly successful in covering all the key points and mostly this was done in a clear and methodical way.

The best pitches had made the style of delivery their own and showed confidence with the style of delivery and the content.

Successful pitches used carefully selected examples of skills and experience to support the comments being made.

The best examples were relevant to the role and the organisation and project outlined in the employment opportunity.

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 for (maximum 5 minutes).

[6 marks]

Audition pieces were mostly relevant for the role. It is best when the audition is performed as part of the pitch, with a candidate moving from pitch to audition with confidence and fluency.

Most audition pieces were well rehearsed and of an appropriate length.

It is helpful when justification is given for the choice of audition piece, however this should be brief and to the point.

The more successful audition pieces had considered relevance to the identified role and the skills and techniques a candidate has.

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