

General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2006



APPLIED PERFORMING ARTS (SINGLE AWARD) 3880/2/PM
Unit 2 Showcase Performance

CANDIDATE GUIDANCE

To be issued to candidates during the second half of the Autumn term 2005

All teacher-assessed marks to be returned to AQA by 31 May 2006

This document contains:

- general guidance
- details of the Production Brief

Instructions

- Read the paper carefully. Before you start work make sure you understand all the information.
- Read the scenario and then choose **one** brief.
- The work submitted for this examination must be your own unaided work.
- The research and planning period should take approximately 15 hours.
- The rehearsal and preparation period should take approximately 30 hours.

Information

- Your work will be marked out of 50.
- All your work, which includes the work done during the preparatory period, will be marked.

Advice

- You should discuss your ideas with your teacher.

What you have to do

Read the brief. Hold an initial production meeting to discuss the most appropriate materials for inclusion in the Showcase that will allow the group to demonstrate their skills. Carry out individual research into sources of material for your own contribution, paying particular attention to the constraints and considerations of the Showcase. You could research other performers, artistes, designers or technicians to see how they carried out similar ideas, and adapt suitable ideas. A second production meeting will allow you to present your ideas for your contribution to the commissioner (the Teacher in role). The group, led by the commissioner, must then assess the suitability of the ideas or suggestions and the final choices will form the basis of the Showcase.

The group will then need to consider the roles and responsibilities needed for the project management, contingency plans, health and safety issues and an action plan. You must then work appropriately on your chosen skill to ensure that you are ready for the performance of the Showcase.

The Showcase will be performed in front of the teacher and external moderator, and an audience, if appropriate.

A brief evaluation of your contribution to the planning and preparation of the pieces and your skills development will be presented on one sheet of A2, or two sheets of A3, or four sheets of A4 paper.

During the preparation period, you will work *appropriately on developing your skills* and carry out the relevant tasks in preparation for the Showcase. You should be aware at all times of the *standard of your work and what you can do to improve it*. For example, research and experiment with an appropriate range of techniques, media or materials to help improve or develop your abilities.

You will *keep records* of your working practices and progress and these will form the basis of the final display. It is expected that *regular meetings* will be held to ensure that all deadlines are being adhered to and rehearsals are being carried out effectively.

There are **three** phases in the development of the Showcase that must be linked together to produce the final performance. They are:

- **planning** and research, including looking at other people's work and your own preparation and developmental work to meet the brief
- **performance** of the Showcase, which includes the setting up and striking of the performance area
- **presentation** of the evaluation

The work that you present must be of a **suitable professional standard** in keeping with the accepted practice of the performing arts industry.

The teacher will have been **observing your working habits and practices**. This will be used in the discussions with the external moderator.

You will ask **three** people with whom you have worked or who have seen your work to provide **brief witness statements**. These will be in addition to the specified evaluation.

INTRODUCTION

Your group will be in a role as a performance company. You will need a suitable company name.

You must show that you can work as a member of a team and that you know and understand its various roles and responsibilities.

You should be aware of all the elements that go into a production and how your contribution fits in.

You should be looking for ways to improve your techniques, for example, by seeing how other people work and by trying their ideas.

You should take account of the constraints identified in the brief and you must ensure that all work produced is suitable for inclusion in the final performance.

Turn over for the Production Brief

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The Production Brief

FROM – THE PRINCE’S TRUST

YOUR COMPANY IS CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN THE ‘XL CLUBS’
PERFORMANCE EVENTS ON SATURDAY 24TH MAY,
FROM 12.00 NOON TO 4.00 PM.

THE THEME IS ‘GET MOVING’ AND THE INTENTION IS TO PROMOTE
SPORT, HEALTH AND FITNESS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE OF SCHOOL AGE.
THE CONTENT MUST BE SUITABLE FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN PARTICULAR.

PERFORMANCES WILL BE HELD IN COMMUNITY CENTRES, SPORTS
ARENAS AND LEISURE CENTRES IN YOUR AREA.

FOUR 13 AMP POWER POINTS WILL BE PROVIDED AND STAGING OR
PLATFORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN INDOOR VENUES.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CONTRIBUTION.

Your company will produce a Showcase in response to the production brief. The length of the performance will be suitable for the number of performers in the group to demonstrate their skills. Where appropriate, the production and technical elements must be sufficient to also allow the non-performers to demonstrate their skills.

It is expected that:

- you will decide upon the age range of the target audience, for example, Key Stage 2 or 3. Your audience will include teachers, but you must decide whether the parents will also be invited
- there will be a wide range of items included, for example, songs, dance, scripted pieces or different performance styles and genres suitable for your chosen target audience
- set and costumes will be provided by your company where appropriate
- your company needs to consider the technical equipment necessary for performing in community and sports leisure venues
- your stage management and crew will run the performance

Your company will research the community venues available in the area and choose **one** of them in which to perform the Showcase.

The performance may take place outdoors. The size of the performance area, stage or platform will depend on the venue chosen. You must consider health and safety at all times.

Individual Briefs

- 1 As a performer** you will research and select the most appropriate material or performance pieces for inclusion in the Showcase. You will choose suitable methods of rehearsal to improve your techniques and allow your skills to be shown at their best.

You will be aware of the reasons for the choice of materials or the running order. You will take responsibility for your equipment, props and costumes.

Performing for the general public has potential problems so these should be identified and prepared for.

- 2 As a designer** you must prepare either the set, props, costumes or other items necessary for the performance that will be suitable for the chosen venue. Identify the problems for a designer for a community production.

The theme of the Showcase should be researched and appropriate responses produced. If there is more than one designer, there should be collaboration on an overall approach so that there will be a cohesive response.

It is assumed that there will be only one set design realised but there should be an indication of any individual requirements or design solutions for a selection of scenes if needed. Set designs should take into account the needs of the performance as a whole. Only one of these designs needs to be realised practically.

Props designers must make two major props for the performance. Notes detailing the research and design process for these props should be produced. Costume designers should produce designs for four costumes, one of which must be made (or assembled) and worn for the performance.

Other design elements will be identified, designed and made as appropriate, for example, masks, make-up and puppets.

- 3 As a technician** you must be aware of the demands of the Showcase and the range of equipment required to support the performers. Other equipment should be identified if it is necessary.

The lighting or sound rigs must be portable, and the equipment must be chosen and prepared carefully to fulfil the necessary health and safety regulations. You can choose to be responsible for either lighting or sound unless the demands of the show are manageable by one person.

Diagrams to show how to stow and rig the equipment must be produced as well as necessary cue sheets. Another crew-member should be able to follow these in case an emergency arises. You should identify potential problems and prepare contingency plans.

- 4 As a stage manager or other backstage crew member** you must be aware of all the elements involved in running the Showcase. You will have the book or other prepared cue sheets or documents relating to your tasks. You will have attended rehearsals and production meetings to find out exactly what is required.

You will have collected or made props if appropriate.

You will know where and when set changes are needed and carry them out efficiently.

You should enforce health and safety regulations, and identify potential problems.

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Assessment requirements GCSE Applied Performing Arts (Single Award) Unit 2: Showcase Performance

You should produce work that shows:

- research and development work to meet the brief
- the final piece of work, suitably presented
- three brief witness statements of your working practices by people with whom you have worked
- a brief evaluation of your contribution to planning, preparation and skills development, presented on one side of A2, or two sides of A3 or four sides of A4

Level 1:	Level 2:	Level 3:
<p>Skills development and professional conduct</p> <p>Show an awareness of professional conduct. Be appropriately prepared to participate in all sessions, respond to direction, be on time, carry out all tasks, including clearing up/striking. (0–6 marks)</p>	<p>Demonstrate a professional attitude towards your work. Be thoroughly prepared, reflect on your contribution, and work to improve your skills. Take responsibility for tasks during the performance and in clearing up/striking. (7–13 marks)</p>	<p>Demonstrate self-direction in your approach to developing your skills and working towards professional standards. Take initiative in working with others in all aspects of the performance and in clearing up/striking. (14–20 marks)</p>
<p>Final performance/designs</p> <p>Apply what you have rehearsed or developed accurately, with an acceptable level of skill, to the audience. (0–6 marks)</p>	<p>Demonstrate effective creative control when presenting or carrying out the prepared skill for the audience. (7–13 marks)</p>	<p>Demonstrate an accomplished, imaginative response to the final work and present or perform it with flair and fluency. (14–20 marks)</p>
<p>Evaluation of own work</p> <p>Comment on your contribution to the Showcase. Using appropriate technical terms, identify the skills that were used. (0–3 marks)</p>	<p>Explain your contribution to the Showcase. Clearly identify the skills you used, using appropriate technical language and show how you have improved them. (4–6 marks)</p>	<p>Clearly explain and evaluate your skills and how they contributed to the Showcase. Explain the improvements you have made using correct technical language. (7–10 marks)</p>

END OF CANDIDATE GUIDANCE

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