

General Certificate of Secondary Education  
June 2006



**APPLIED PERFORMING ARTS (DOUBLE AWARD) 3880/3/4/TN**  
**Unit 3 Working to a Commission – Preparation and Development**  
**Unit 4 Final Performance/Designs for the Chosen Commission**

## **TEACHERS' NOTES**

**For immediate release to the teacher(s) responsible for GCSE Applied Performing Arts (Double Award)**

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

**This document contains:**

- general guidance
- details of the commission

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## Assessment

The portfolio will be marked in accordance with the criteria set out for Unit 3.

Candidates must be aware that the teacher, as commissioner, will have been assessing their working processes.

The vocational context of the work must be fully accounted for, with emphasis placed on the methods of working, evaluation and presentation of the performing arts skills chosen. The following should be stressed:

- organisation of the research and development of ideas to fulfil the commission
- professionalism while working on the development of materials and checking their appropriateness for purpose
- preparedness of the performance

## Time allocation and delivery

See guidelines in specification.

## Guidelines for delivery

**It is *not* expected that the performances will be carried out at the locations offered. However, the organisation and development must be carried out as if they *were* to take place at these locations.**

The performance, for example, could take place in the school hall or on the school field marked out to the given dimensions and carried out as if it were in the chosen location. The main consideration is that of having to perform in **two** different locations and how this will have an effect on the final piece.

The research must be done on the problems and constraints of the chosen venue, and these must be taken into consideration in the planning, especially for contingencies.

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**The following sections are reproduced from the Candidate Guidance Document**

**What you have to do**

The teacher will act as the commissioner and present the commission in an initial production meeting. This will allow you to discuss the most appropriate response and make some decisions about areas of research for materials to include in your performance. You will be able to ask questions to clarify the commission.

You should:

- explore sources of material and develop creative opportunities, paying particular attention to the constraints and considerations of the commission
- research the work of other performers, artistes, designers or technicians and adapt suitable ideas
- select a range of technologies, equipment and designs to enhance the performance
- present ideas for materials to be included in the performance to the commissioner
- decide on the suitability of the ideas or suggestions and these will form the basis of the commission
- consider the roles and responsibilities needed for the project management and performance

Group members will usually take on more than one role, for example, help prepare publicity or props while undertaking a performance role. Contingency plans and action planning will ensure all areas are on target.

Health and safety issues must be thoroughly considered.

For Unit 3, there are four phases in the development of the response to the commission that must be linked together in preparation for the performance:

- 1 clarify the requirements of the commission and carry out effective research of materials and sources to support the creation of the performance
- 2 review your own work and that of others to ensure that the outcome is fulfilling the commission
- 3 ensure all of the elements are ready for the dress and technical rehearsals and carry them out
- 4 evaluate the extent to which the outcomes have met the commission

You should be fully prepared at the end of the rehearsal period to perform the finished performance for Unit 4.

For further guidance, you should refer to the unit specification and the assessment marking criteria.

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## Introduction

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

You must show that you can work professionally in 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.

Your research must include work produced by others, and there should be evidence of experimentation with materials and techniques.

## The Commission

A campaign to raise awareness of environmental issues and social responsibility is being organised by the local Conservation Trust. It is to be held in August over two days, and your company is commissioned to produce work suitable for performance.

- theme – ‘**Our Environment**’
- target audience – **local community**
- objective – **education through entertainment**
- constraints are:
  - the performance events will be held in different locations and you must choose **two** of these locations.
  - you will be expected to put on **two** performances of your completed work each day, at 10.00 am at your first location and at 2.00 pm at your second location.

Your company must present **two** performance proposals for consideration by the commissioner. The proposals must be suitable for performance in the **two** chosen locations.

The locations are:

- the field by the river bank in the main park; there will be a platform stage, measuring 6 metres long, 5 metres wide by 1 metre high. Scaffolding and power can be provided if requested.
- the recreation ground; one 7 metres by 4 metres flat-bed lorry will be positioned in a suitable location within the ground. Power will be supplied.
- the school near the park will offer its main hall, with stage, basic lighting rig with 12 channel dimmer control, PA sound system and limited wing space.
- the local public library, where the work by the primary schools will be on display, is also available as a performance space. Power will be made available.

**The commissioner’s choice of proposal must be clearly stated.**

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**Assessment requirements for GCSE Applied Performing Arts (Double Award)**  
**Unit 3: Working to a Commission – Preparation and Development**

**You need to produce a portfolio.**

This should be a practical working record of your response to the commission, which includes:

- a record of the two proposals for the commission and reasons for the final choice
- notes on the way in which you have been influenced by the work of others
- evidence of your contribution to the overall programme and your work during the rehearsal or preparation for the performance
- **two** observations of your working practice during the preparation period, **one** by the teacher and **one** by a peer

<b>Level 1:</b>	<b>Level 2:</b>	<b>Level 3:</b>
<p><b>Planning and Research</b> Decide on materials which will be appropriate for the commission and collect relevant information. (0–3 marks)</p>	<p>Make an informed choice about the effectiveness of the final proposal, and research appropriate materials which will produce a satisfactory solution. (4–6 marks)</p>	<p>Offer a range of innovative responses, select the most effective and research materials which will meet the requirements of the commission, in an accomplished manner. (7–10 marks)</p>
<p><b>Skills Development and Professional Conduct</b> Agree your initial skills base and put into practice a relevant development programme. (0–3 marks)</p>	<p>Clearly identify your existing skills and others you need to learn. Show some independence by planning and developing an effective programme of research, and practice. (4–6 marks)</p>	<p>Clearly identify and evaluate your skills. Decide which skills will improve your range, and prepare a programme which demonstrates an accomplished approach to preparation, practice and working towards professional standards. (7–10 marks)</p>
<p><b>Preparation for Final Performance or Designs</b> Ensure you are ready, appropriately prepared or rehearsed for the final performance, and your skills are at an acceptable level. (0–6 marks)</p>	<p>Demonstrate an effective use of the time during the preparation period to ensure you are well prepared, focused and confident in your skills. (7–13 marks)</p>	<p>Demonstrate an accomplished use of the preparation period to ensure you are ready to present your skills with flair and fluency. (14–20 marks)</p>
<p><b>Knowledge and Understanding of Work-Related Aspects</b> Show an awareness of the way in which some professionals work in the industry and how you have used their ideas. (0–3 marks)</p>	<p>Experiment with the ideas of professionals within the industry and explain how they have influenced your work. (4–6 marks)</p>	<p>Demonstrate clearly how you have experimented with professional ideas and explain why they have influenced your work. (7–10 marks)</p>
<p><b>Evaluation of Own and Others' Work</b> Comment on your own and others' contribution during the development of the commission. (0–3 marks)</p>	<p>Explain effectively your own work and that of others and how it has contributed to the success of the preparation of the commission. (4–6 marks)</p>	<p>Show full awareness of the effectiveness of your work and that of others and evaluate the development of the commission. (7–10 marks)</p>

**Assessment requirements for GCSE Applied Performing Arts (Double Award)**  
**Unit 4: Final Performance/Designs for the Chosen Commission**

**For the external assessment, you should respond to the commission. You should produce:**

- 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
- the final piece of work, suitably presented, that meets the requirements of the commission
- three observations of your working practices during rehearsals, by people you have worked with

In preparation for the assessment, you will have prepared a response to the commission set in Unit 3.

<b>Level 1:</b>	<b>Level 2:</b>	<b>Level 3:</b>
<p><b>Skills Development and Professional Conduct</b>            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><b>Final Performance/Designs</b>            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><b>Evaluation of Own Work</b>            Comment on your contribution to the commission. Using appropriate technical terms, identify the skills that were used.            (0–3 marks)</p>	<p>Explain your contribution to the commission. 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 commission. Explain the improvements you have made using correct technical language.            (7–10 marks)</p>

**END OF TEACHERS' NOTES**

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