

General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 200X



APPLIED PERFORMING ARTS (DOUBLE AWARD) 3380/3/4/TN

Unit 3 Working to a Commission

Unit 4 Final Performance/Designs for the 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

This document contains:

- general guidance;
- details of the commission.

SPECIMEN

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 be 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 during working on the development of materials and checking their appropriateness for purpose
- Be totally prepared for the performance

Time allocation and delivery

See guidelines in specification

Guidelines for delivery

It is *not* expected that the performances be carried out at the locations offered. However, the organisation and development must be carried out as if it *was*.

The performance, for example, could take place in the school hall marked out to the given dimensions and set up with the set, if produced, or on the school field as part of a Fête. The research must be done on the problems and constraints of the chosen venue, and taken into consideration in the planning, especially for contingencies.

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 the performance. You will be able to clarify accurately the requirements of the commission by asking questions. Carry out effective research and use this to understand the commission and inspire ideas.

You should explore sources of material and develop creative opportunities, paying particular attention to the constraints and considerations of the commission. You should research the work of other performers, artistes, designers or technicians and adapt suitable ideas. Where appropriate, a selection of a range of technologies, equipments and designs should be made to enhance the performance. Ideas for materials to be included in the performance should be presented to the Commissioner, for consideration by the group. Decisions should then be made on the suitability of the ideas or suggestions and the final choices will form the basis of the commission. The group will then need to consider the roles and responsibilities needed for the project management and performance.

It is expected that where necessary, group members will take on more than one role, for example, help prepare publicity or props while undertaking a performance role. This should be supported by the production of contingency plans, and action planning which, along with regular meetings, will ensure all areas are on target. Health and safety issues should be thoroughly considered. You must then work appropriately on your chosen area or skill to ensure you are ready for the performance of the commission. The prepared response to the commission, which will be Unit 4: *Final Performance/ Designs – Working to a Commission*, will be performed in front of the teacher and an audience. An external moderator may also be present. Planning and preparation will be recorded in your portfolio for Unit 3.

During the preparation period you should be working as effectively as possible on developing and improving the skills and techniques you have already learned. However, it is the teamwork involved in developing and preparing the response to the commission that should be considered at all times. The work that you produce should be in-keeping with accepted professional standards for your chosen area of performing arts.

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:

- clarify accurately the requirements of the commission and carry out effective research of materials and sources to support the creation of the performance
- work effectively and creatively to develop and refine your contribution for the performance and review your own work and that of others to ensure the outcome is fulfilling the commission
- ensure all of the elements are ready for the dress and technical rehearsals and carry them out
- review your working methods, problem solving, evaluate the extent 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.

Introduction

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

You must show you can work as professionally as possible in the team, with an understanding of the required roles and responsibilities. Your research must include work produced by others, and there should be evidence of experimentation with materials and techniques to develop your ideas and progress to a final proposal that will be chosen by the Commissioner.

The Commission

There is a Carnival being organised by the local Council to be held in July over two days. Your company has been offered the commission to produce work suitable for performance at the Carnival.

- the theme is **'Summer'**
- the target audience is the **local community** with emphasis on families
- the objective is entertainment
- the constraints are;
 - the performance events will be held in different locations but you will choose one
 - you will be expected to put on three performances of your completed work during the day, at three o'clock, six o'clock and nine o'clock. You must take into consideration time for set-up and striking
 - you will share the performance space with one other company

Your company must present **two** performance proposals for consideration by the Commissioner. You can either choose proposals for two different locations or offer two proposals for one location.

These are:

- the main park; several platform stages, measuring 5 metres by 4 metres, will be erected among the side shows and stalls. Scaffolding is provided to rig curtains and lights, if necessary. Power will be supplied.
- the football ground; several flat-bed lorries will be arranged around the edge of the football ground. These measure 7 metres by 4 metres. Power will be supplied.
- the community centre near the car park will offer its main space, with stage, for a performance suitable for children. This is a basic lighting rig, but no lanterns, and limited wing space.
- Town Hall square is available as a performance space. Power will be made available.

The Commissioner's choice of proposal must be clearly stated.

Assessment requirement 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 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

Level 1:	Level 2:	Level 3:
Planning and Research Decide on materials which will be appropriate for the commission and collect relevant information. (0-3 marks)	Make an informed choice about the effectiveness of the final proposal, and research appropriate materials which will produce a satisfactory solution. (4-6 marks)	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)
Skills Development and Professional Conduct Agree your initial skills base and put into practice a relevant development programme (0-3 marks)	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)	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)
Preparation for Final Performance or Designs Ensure you are ready, appropriately prepared or rehearsed for the final performance, and your skills are an acceptable level. (0-6 marks)	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)	Demonstrate an accomplished use of the preparation period to ensure you are ready to present your skills with flair and fluency. (14-20 marks)
Knowledge and Understanding of Work-Related Aspects Show an awareness of the way in which some professionals work in the industry and how you have used their ideas. (0-3 marks)	Experiment with the ideas of professionals within the industry and explain how they have influenced your work. (4-6 marks)	Demonstrate clearly how you have experimented with professional ideas and explain why they have influenced your work. (7-10 marks)
Evaluation of Own and Others' Work Comment on your own and others' contribution during the development of the commission. (0-3 marks)	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)	Show full awareness of the effectiveness of your work and that of others and evaluate the development of the commission. (7-10 marks)

Assessment requirements for GCSE in Applied Performing Arts (Single or 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 paper.
- 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.

Level 1:	Level 2:	Level 3:
<p>Skills development and professional conduct</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <p>(0-6 marks)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <p>(7-13 marks)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <p>(14-20 marks)</p>
<p>Final Performance/Designs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply what you have rehearsed or developed accurately, with an acceptable level of skill, to the audience <p>(0-6 marks)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate effective creative control when presenting or carrying out the prepared skill for the audience <p>(7-13 marks)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate an accomplished, imaginative response to the final work and present or perform it with flair and fluency <p>(14-20 marks)</p>
<p>Evaluation of own work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment on your contribution to the commission. Using appropriate technical terms, identify the skills that were used <p>(0-3 marks)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain your contribution to the commission. Clearly identify the skills you used, using appropriate technical language and show how you have improved them <p>(4-6 marks)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly explain and evaluate your skills and how they contributed to the commission. Explain the improvements you have made using correct technical language <p>(7-10 marks)</p>