

A Level Dance Preparation

A Level Dance Course Overview The study of dance enables you to develop socially whilst promoting creativity, fitness and well-being. As well as developing as performers, you'll also develop skills in confidence, self-esteem and team working skills. Assessment includes a combination of practical dance tasks alongside creative extended writing assignments. This will equip you with the necessary skills and experience to study dance further or embark on an exciting career in the arts.

Theoretical preparation

Task 1 - Performance Skills

To prepare for our practical studies I would like you to gain a theoretical understanding of all the skills required in performance. As a performer you need to demonstrate a range of technical and performance skills, such as:

- **Musicality**
- **Alignment**
- **Timing**
- **Awareness of others/Sensitivity towards others**
- **Control**
- **Use of focus**
- **Projection**
- **Strength**
- **Emphasis**
- **Flexibility**

Research the definition of each of the 10 skills and give an example of how you have/or can improve this skill through your study of dance. Work should be handwritten and details of where you have found your information should be included in a bibliography e.g.

Websites

Turtonhighschool@ 123.com

Books

The Art of dance by Mrs Atkinson

Theoretical preparation
Task 2 - Rooster Knowledge Organiser

Create a knowledge organiser around the dance work "Rooster". I would like you to include different sections as listed below.

Can you write a paragraph for each section? I have given you some questions to help you think about the information I want you to include. Please also add in any other useful information you might find. Please make your knowledge organiser colourful and easy to read and email it to me once it is completed.

Basic facts

- Who was the choreographer?
- What year it was choreographed?
- Which company performed the piece?
- When it was first performed?
- Where did it premiere?
- What inspired Rooster?
- What was the choreographic intention for Rooster?

Set

- Who designed the set?
- What does the set look like? Can you describe it?
- Can you find any pictures of the set?

Costume

- Who designed the costume?
- What do the costumes look like? Can you describe them?
- Can you find any pictures of the costumes?
- Explain how the use of costume communicates the intention

Structure

- What is the structure of Rooster? How does this relate to choreographic intention?
- What each section is called?
- What is the intention of each section?
- How many dancers are in each section? (ratio of male to female)
- Which gender gets the upper hand in each section?

Aural setting

- Who composed the music?
- What songs were used?
- Describe the aural setting
- How might the aural setting link to or communicate the intention?

Useful links Videos of Rooster

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bTW8tPL6qY>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkxsngusqtw>
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pl4ozyBFmfg>
4. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eP5JVPTilfY>
5. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g_k5YJCl12c
6. <https://www.rambert.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Rooster-ResourcePack-1.pdf>

Some flash cards I found online

<https://m.brainscape.com/flashcards/rooster-7942269/packs/13146221>

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Reading:

Dance Study Supplement Part One: Contemporary Dance available from the Dancing Times
Optional Area of Study: American Jazz Dance 1940-1975 Conrad, C. (2000)

Jerome Robbins that Broadway man that ballet man London: Booth-Clibborn Editions Emmet
Long, R. (2001) Broadway,

The Golden Years. Jerome Robbins and the Great Choreographers 1940 to the present New York,
London: Continuum Hirschhorn, C. (1975, 1984)

Gene Kelly: A Biography Chicago, Regnery, New York: St Martin's Press Parkinson, D

Theoretical preparation Task 3

Practitioner Research To prepare for the theoretical component.

Choose a practitioner from one of the areas of study at A Level Dance and create an A4 length
fact file on documenting the following information:

Background information Influences (on themselves/on others) Choreographic style Movement
style List of work created Affiliations with Dance Companies

**Practitioners: Glen Tetley (1926-2007) Jerome Robbins (1918-1998) Robert North (Born 1945)
Bob Fosse (1927-1987) Christopher Bruce (Born 1945) Gene Kelly (1912-1996) Richard Alston
(Born 1948)**

Choreographic Tasks

As A Level Dance students' you will need to be able to show you have a clear and developed understanding of the idea, leading to highly imaginative and creative outcomes in your choreographies. This will be achieved through effective and informative research, so that you are able to see beyond the simple and obvious choices.

I would like you to research one of the following ideas as a stimulus to create a piece of solo choreography.

1. Choreograph and perform a dance based on an exploration of the different types of symmetry used in geometry.