

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS LEVEL 3 (2016)

Examiners' report

PERFORMING ARTS



Unit 2 January 2019 series

Version 1

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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. A full copy of the question paper can be downloaded from OCR.

Unit 2 overview

This examination session we saw a good number of candidates.

Candidate's responses have demonstrated that centres fully understood the aims and expectation of this unit. There has been no significant change in the standard of responses or range of marks from the last session. This session was very encouraging and the panel saw some excellent responses and inspiring ideas from candidates.

The choice of commissions were varied and provided candidates with a good, evenly balanced choice of scenario. Candidates responded fluidly to the commission they had selected and demonstrated that they really understood what was required from the choice they had made. The commissions were fun, realistic and all provided scope for the candidate to be creative and innovative.

The trend to follow the examination paper as a step by step format for the candidate's responses was evident and is encouraged. This gives candidates a coherent structure to their response and avoids them not covering vital aspects of the brief for them to achieve.

Good practice observed:

- Candidates follow the step by step format of the exam paper
- Candidates are using the appendices to provide detailed responses effectively, allowing more word count for description and rationale within their text
- Full and complete budget planners, risk assessments and timelines/ planners were attached as appendices and were in context with the candidates plans and statements within the text
- Research materials, any other useful supportive information were attached as appendices
- Detailed briefs were observed that outlined their ideas, rationale and how they will achieve it.

Some centres had also uploaded the candidates completed declaration forms in Surpass. This is encouraged and easy to submit as an additional document in the candidates file.

It needs to be remembered that we are testing the application of the candidate's knowledge throughout this examination - in context to the brief. Candidates that achieved lower marks were primarily those that had not fully evidenced their knowledge or missed out including detailed risk assessments, budgets and timelines/ planning schedules to evidence their knowledge and how to apply it.

Some candidates stated they would employ a Health and Safety officer or Risk Assessor, or that they would rely on the venues policies and procedure, rather than demonstrate their knowledge and the rationale of Health and Safety, Risk Assessment, Public Liability, policies, licences, GDPR, DBS requirements. It was good to see some centres had covered GDPR in the learning despite being less than a year in to compulsory compliance.

Top Tip – as guidance for future candidates is to produce the costs of licences, DBS for example within the budget planners. Whatever the candidate decides they are going to do in their brief, it needs to have a cost consideration in the budget planner.

Overall a very pleasing exam session with some fantastic results for centres.

Pre-release

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS

- This pre-release material must be opened and given to candidates on receipt.
- The candidates will commence research on their chosen commission on receipt of this pre-release material.
- The candidate will complete the proposal for their chosen commission under controlled conditions during the assessment window.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LEARNERS

- On receipt of this pre-release material, you will commence research to inform a proposal for your chosen commission.
- You must choose from **ONE** of three commission briefs.
- You will complete your proposal under controlled conditions during the assessment window.

INFORMATION FOR LEARNERS

- The total mark for this paper is **50**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- This document consists of **5** pages.

Commission briefs

Commission A

Halloween Event

Hapty is an old market town with a history of celebrating Halloween.

Hapty Borough Council Town Hall is available for one week of arts activities for children during the next school holiday.

There is no fee, but space will be made available free-of-charge to the most attractive children's performance project.

Projects will need to be commercial ventures and you will take financial responsibility.

With a population of over 10,000 people in Hapty, the Council wants it to be as accessible to as many children as possible.

The Town Hall has a large ballroom area with a stage at one end. Chairs, tables and window black-out blinds are available.

Please send your excitingly 'Horrible Halloween' proposal to us for consideration.

Commission B

Anti-Bullying Project

Diamond Schools' Trust is a cluster of 4 Primary Schools. The Governors are inviting practitioners and companies to submit bids for a contract for a performing arts project for year 6 children as part of their transition to Secondary School.

The theme is Anti-Bullying.

The project will need to be engaging and entertaining, while also raising awareness of how to combat and report Bullying.

Parents will be encouraged to attend the performances.

The schools are within a 4-mile radius and all share the same term dates. Each school has around 90 children in Year 6.

Please submit your proposal to the Governors of the Diamond Schools' Trust, outlining your ideas.

Commission C**Rural Fun Day**

Castlebury is a rural area with a large farming community.

The local Farmers' Union has identified a few weeks prior to the annual harvest when farming families have some 'down time' before their busiest time of the year.

The Farmers' Union want an arts based 'Fun in the Sun' day in Castlebury and have arranged to use a grassy field in one of the farms for the event.

Your ideas need to be family friendly and need to fill the whole day. The field will be available from dawn to dusk and your planning needs to consider the set-up, delivery, and get-out. The Farmers' Union will arrange volunteers to support you if required. There is no charge for this support or for the use of the field.

We are keen to hear your ideas. Please send your proposal to the Farmers' Union Committee.

Scenario

You are the Project Development Officer for a company of performers and creative outreach workers. This is a new ensemble company formed after its members graduated from pre-professional training. There are four core members including yourself but you can 'pull in' other co-workers if necessary.

As a company you are multi-skilled but lack direct experience in the contexts described in the commissions; however what you lack in experience you make up for with enthusiasm and an ability to take on new skills and adapt existing ones, based on a thorough research and development process.

Although money is available the commissioning organisations have not given a budget for the work and so you must be competitive but remain committed to paying workers the going rate and employing them on professional conditions of service. You will also need to be realistic about the resources and equipment that is needed to successfully carry out the project.

The timescale for the project will arise from your proposal details and approach but could include 'added value' such as a long-term commitment to weekly workshops or a short tour of performances, depending on the commission details.

Question 1

- 1 Produce a proposal report for ONE of the commissions**
(1500-2000 words, including supporting documentation).
Please state clearly which commission you have chosen.

Your report must contain:

- (a) Introduction section that responds to a given scenario.
- (b) Initial summary.
 - (i) A brief outline/executive summary of the project you intend to run.
 - (ii) Details of who will benefit from this project and how their needs will be addressed (this should include commissioning organisation, participants and the company and company members).
- (c) The Proposal.
 - (i) This is an opportunity to 'flesh out' the details of the proposal and convince the commissioning organisation of your ability to deliver the project.
- (d) Budget and Resources.
 - (i) Details of costs and resources needed to carry out the work.

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