

External Assessment Practice Paper 1

NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative
Studies: Performance Skills
(600/6990/9)

This is NOT a live paper

Time allowed: 30 hours

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30 hours

There are 20 hours of preparation time. You'll work on Tasks 1 and 2 during this time.

There are 10 hours of timed external assessment. You'll work on Tasks 3, 4 and 5 during this time.

PRACTICE

General instructions for candidates

- **You MUST attempt all the tasks to address all assessment criteria fully. You cannot achieve a Pass grade unless you meet the required standard in all the tasks.**
 - **Make sure you're familiar with the assessment criteria and grading descriptors for this unit. These are included at the back of this external assessment paper. If you're aiming for a Merit or Distinction it's particularly important that you're familiar with what these grades require, as you work through the tasks.**
 - Read the tasks carefully and make sure that you understand:
 - what you need to do to complete the assessment
 - what you need to submit
 - how much time you need to allow for each task
 - Talk to your Teacher about anything you are unsure of during the preparation period
 - All the work you submit must be your own.
 - Make sure that all your work (including preparation work and timed external assessment work) is clearly identified with your name, your centre number, your candidate number and relevant task numbers.
 - The Invigilator will explain where you will save your work between each external assessment session.
 - Record all your responses, ideas, thoughts and developments in a suitable format, eg in a portfolio, drawing book, sketchbook, notebook or in a digital form.
 - Try out, test and record your ideas; don't rely on your first idea only, continually review your progress and re-evaluate your ideas.
 - You can use your school's intranet and the internet for the preparation tasks to support your research and inform your final piece of work; however you cannot copy directly from the internet. Any information used from the internet must be acknowledged in your work.
 - You can use the schools intranet or the internet for Task 4 for the purpose of developing and hosting your rehearsal diary (if applicable).
 - If you're using an external storage device to save your work, you should check that it can be opened once you've transferred your work onto it.
 - Once you've completed your external assessment you must sign the candidate declaration on your Candidate Front Sheet, to declare that the work produced is your own, and submit it with your work.
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External assessment

You **MUST** attempt all Tasks in this external assessment.

School Anniversary Celebration

Brief

Your school is celebrating an important anniversary and it's proposed that one of the events should be a celebration of the talents of the present students. You've been invited to plan and prepare a piece to perform in a performance event for parents and other members of the local community.

Your piece:

- must be suitable for parents and other members of your local community
- must be suitable for live performance.

If you work individually your performance must be 3 to 5 minutes long. You must be seen actively performing at an appropriate Level 2 standard throughout.

If you work as a group your performance may need to be longer than this. You must be seen actively performing at an appropriate Level 2 standard for 3 to 5 minutes. You will be assessed individually.

These are the tasks you need to do in your preparation time:

Task 1

You must ensure your work in Task 1 addresses assessment criterion: 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.6. You can refer to the assessment criteria within the grading descriptors at the end of this document.

Plan your performance.

You will need to:

- show understanding of the requirements of the performance brief in terms of performance styles
- decide on a performance style for your piece by looking at the techniques and practical skills used by other performers
- identify, develop and try out ideas/techniques for your performance
- undertake research into safe working practices for rehearsal and performances
- prepare an outline rehearsal schedule to be refined and developed in the light of rehearsal experience during the timed external assessment
- plan the process to ensure that you have ideas and materials in place for your final 10 hours.

Record your ideas in an appropriate format. This could include a portfolio, notebook or a digital format.

It's recommended that you spend around 10 hours on this Task.

Task 2

You must ensure your work in Task 2 addresses assessment criterion: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4. You can refer to the assessment criteria within the grading descriptors at the end of this document.

Develop your outline rehearsal schedule showing how you've prepared for your performance by:

- identifying the performance piece and your role within it
- researching performance styles for the chosen performance piece
- investigating the requirements of the piece
- identifying techniques and skills which need to be developed and addressing these.

It's recommended that you spend around 10 hours on this Task.

These are the tasks you need to do in your timed external assessment:

Task 3

You must ensure your work in Task 3 addresses assessment criterion: 1.4 and 1.5. You can refer to the assessment criteria within the grading descriptors at the end of this document.

Rehearse your chosen piece. You must include short video clips demonstrating a range of rehearsals and a variety of technical skills in development.

You need to keep a log of your rehearsals which demonstrates your development over time towards your final performance.

Your rehearsal log could be created in various formats eg written, audio, video, podcasts, blogs or websites.

It's recommended that you spend the majority of your time on this task during the timed external assessment.

Task 4

*You must ensure your work in Task 4 addresses assessment criterion: 2.1.
You can refer to the assessment criteria within the grading descriptors at the end of this document.*

Perform your chosen piece in front of an audience. The performance must be recorded in an appropriate audio visual format. Evidence of the audience must be captured in the recording.

Your final performance must demonstrate technical skills at a Level 2 standard throughout.

You must make sure that in a group performance the Examiner can identify you and your individual contribution.

The length of time spent on this task will depend on the length of your performance.

Task 5

*You must ensure your work in Task 5 addresses assessment criterion: 2.2.
You can refer to the assessment criteria within the grading descriptors at the end of this document.*

Produce a post-production evaluation which focuses on the performance and skills developed, with a view to improvement. This may be in any of the formats specified for the rehearsal log (see Task 3).

It's recommended that you spend around 1 hour on this Task.

What you need to hand in after your external assessment

At the end of the timed external assessment you'll hand in:

Preparation work - Tasks 1 and 2

- your portfolio, notebook or digital file recording your response to Task 1
- your rehearsal schedule as detailed in Task 2.

Timed external assessment work – Tasks 3, 4 and 5

- your completed rehearsal log as detailed in Task 3
- appropriate audio visual format recording of the rehearsal process as detailed in Task 3
- appropriate audio visual format recording of the performance as detailed in Task 4
- a post-production evaluation as detailed in Task 5.

All work that you submit electronically must be in a suitable file format, **which can be accessed by the Examiner.**

All the work you submit for the external assessment must be clearly identified with your name, your centre number, your candidate number and the task number to ensure the Examiner is able to grade it.

Make sure you've included and signed the candidate declaration on the Candidate Front Sheet.

Grading descriptors

The grading descriptors are detailed below. If you're aiming for a Merit or Distinction it's particularly important that you're familiar with what these grades require, as you work through the tasks.

Assessment criteria	Pass	Merit	Distinction
1.1 Identify the performance piece and their role within it	candidates identify the performance piece and their role within it	candidates show critical understanding in the identification of a performance piece and justify their chosen role within it	candidates demonstrate critical judgement in describing a range of roles within the performance piece, showing insight and perception in their choices
1.2 Research performance styles for the chosen performance piece	candidates research performance styles for the chosen performance piece	candidates demonstrate critical understanding in their research of styles, justifying the relevance to the chosen piece	candidates show critical judgement in exploring a range of styles, suggesting creative and insightful alternatives in the context of their chosen performance piece
1.3 Investigate the requirements for the piece	candidates investigate the requirements for the piece	candidates demonstrate critical understanding of the requirements of the piece justifying their suggestions	candidates show critical judgement in their exploration of the requirements of the piece showing insight and perception
1.4 Plan a rehearsal schedule taking into account the demands of the performance and the needs of the audience	candidates plan a rehearsal schedule taking into account the demands of the performance and the needs of the audience	candidates plan a rehearsal schedule giving details of tasks and timings, demonstrating critical understanding in relating these to a particular audience	candidates demonstrate critical judgement in planning a rehearsal schedule, showing insight and perception in setting the performance in context for different audiences

Grading descriptors (cont'd)

Assessment Criteria	Pass	Merit	Distinction
1.5 Rehearse the performance using technical skills	candidates rehearse performance material using technical skills	candidates demonstrate a range of rehearsal exercises using a variety of technical skills	candidates show critical judgement in their application of a wide range of technical skills, demonstrating fluency and inventiveness over several performance rehearsals
1.6 Identify safe working practices during rehearsal and performance	candidates identify safe working practices during rehearsal and performance	no Merit for this AC	no Distinction for this AC
2.1 Perform the piece showing technical and performance skills, which must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sustaining concentration • demonstrating projection • demonstrating timing during the performance engaging the audience	candidates perform the piece showing technical and performance skills including sustaining concentration, demonstrating projection, timing during the performance and engaging the audience	candidates show a good level of technical and performance skills and the ability to engage with the audience, demonstrating an awareness of the importance of timing and projection	<p>candidates show constant engagement with the audience through projection, timing and responsiveness throughout</p> <p>candidates' performances are creative and fluent, demonstrating excellence in their command of technical and performance skills</p>
2.2 Evaluate the performance and skills used with a view to improvement	candidates evaluate the performance and skills used with a view to improvement	candidates demonstrate critical understanding in evaluating their performance and justify their suggestions for improvement	candidates show critical judgement in their exploration of a range of skills and provide perceptive and insightful explanations of the impact on and context within the performance, together with proposals for their self-improvement

This is the end of the assessment.
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