



Sample assessment task	
Year level	8
Learning area	The Arts
Subject	Dance
Title of task	Technique and performance
Task details	
Description of task	Students complete exercises and sequences in a chosen genre/style demonstrating dance skills, retention of movement and performance skills.
Type of assessment	Making – Summative
Purpose of assessment	To assess students' skill development and inform reporting at the end of the learning cycle
Assessment strategy	Movement skills
Evidence to be collected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher observation Video documentation
Suggested time	6–8 hours
Content description	
Content from the Western Australian Curriculum	<p>Skills and Techniques</p> <p>Dance skills that develop technical competence in relation to body control, accuracy, posture/alignment, strength, flexibility, placement, balance and co-ordination</p> <p>Safe dance practice of style-specific techniques</p> <p>Warm-up and cool down procedures for dance participation</p> <p>Performance</p> <p>Techniques that focus on developing retention of movement with accuracy and detail</p> <p>Performance skills (expression, projection, focus) demonstrated to an audience and appropriate to the dance genre/style</p>
Task preparation	
Prior learning	<p>Students have practised combinations of increasingly complex fundamental movement skills, incorporating spatial changes that develop body awareness, control, balance, strength, coordination, accuracy and alignment, safely.</p> <p>Students have practised performance skills appropriate to the dance genre/style.</p>
Assessment differentiation	<p>Teachers should differentiate their teaching and assessment to meet the specific learning needs of their students, based on their level of readiness to learn and their need to be challenged.</p> <p>Where appropriate, teachers may either scaffold or extend the scope of the assessment tasks.</p>
Assessment task	
Assessment conditions	Students present performance for assessment by the teacher
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sound device Any suitable recording device

Instructions for teacher

Students learn a variety of warm-up and preparation exercises, progressions and sequences in a selected genre/style. Students will need to demonstrate dance skills, retention of movement and performance skills.

Activities to be assessed include:

- warming-up the body
- isolation exercises relevant to genre/style
- coordination exercises
- strength exercises
- flexibility exercises
- locomotor exercises
- jump exercises
- extended sequence, incorporating some of the movements from the above set exercises.

Sample marking key

Dance technique	
Description	Marks
Body alignment and placement	
Sustains a high level of control of body alignment and placement in the execution of a range of movements throughout all set exercises; consistently applies safe dance practices.	4
Controls body alignment and placement through the execution of a range of movements in most set exercises though some inconsistencies are evident; applies safe dance practices.	3
Shows some control of body alignment and placement through the execution of most movements, though with regular inconsistencies; aware of safe dance practices.	2
Shows limited control of body alignment and placement; demonstrates limited safe dance practice.	1
Subtotal	4
Description	Marks
Body control, coordination and balance	
Maintains consistently a high level of body control, coordinates a range of movements smoothly and without apparent conscious effort.	4
Maintains competent body control, demonstrates coordination and balance throughout most of the exercises.	3
Maintains some body control, coordinates movements within a limited dance vocabulary; any attempts at new movement are poorly controlled.	2
Shows limited body control, movements attempted appear awkward, uncoordinated and lacking in balance.	1
Subtotal	4
Description	Marks
Strength	
Demonstrates consistently strength and control across a wide range of movements.	4
Demonstrates strength but lacks fine control of movements attempted OR demonstrates reasonable strength and control OR demonstrates low strength but good control.	3
Demonstrates some strength and control of movements attempted.	2
Displays very little strength and limited control across all movements attempted.	1
Subtotal	4
Description	Marks
Flexibility	
Demonstrates a high degree of flexibility across a wide range of movements.	4
Demonstrates sufficient flexibility in a range of movements.	3
Demonstrates some flexibility across a range of movements.	2
Demonstrates limited flexibility in all movements attempted.	1
Subtotal	4

Description	Marks
Retention of movement	
Demonstrates consistently and accurately retention of set exercises; attends to detail.	4
Demonstrates a mostly accurate retention of most set exercises; mostly attends to detail.	3
Demonstrates some accuracy in retention of set exercises; with some attention to detail.	2
Demonstrates minimal retention of movement; relies on copying others and/or does not complete set exercises.	1
Subtotal	4
Description	Marks
Performance skills	
Performs the extended sequence with sustained projection, focus and clarity of movement.	4
Performs extended sequence with projection and focus where there is generally commitment to the movement.	3
Performs extended sequence with some projection and focus where there is some commitment to the movement.	2
Performs extended sequence with inconsistent projection and focus where there is little commitment to the movement.	1
Subtotal	4
Dance technique total	24