

# Performing Arts

## Unit 1: Individual Showcase

Learner work should be submitted to your allocated Examiner by 15 May 2015

Paper Reference  
**20512E**

**You should ensure you have read the relevant unit content from the specification and adhere to the guidance in *Section 9: External Assessment*.**

### Instructions

- The task included should be given to the tutor-assessor for confidential reference AS SOON AS IT IS RECEIVED in the centre in order to plan for the learner's development and response to the task.
- This document is available on the Pearson website [www.BTEC.co.uk/2012](http://www.BTEC.co.uk/2012)
- The response to the progression opportunity tasks will take place under controlled conditions; the guidance on the controls for assessment is provided in this document.
- There are 30 guided learning hours (GLH) allocated to this unit. No more than two hours should be spent completing the letter of application; the final recorded progression opportunity will take between five and ten minutes, depending on which is selected. The remaining time of the 30 GLH should be used for the teaching of the unit and preparation of the tasks.

### Information

- The total mark for this paper is 42.
- The qualification pathways are as follows:

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts (Acting)  
Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts (Dance)  
Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts (Production)  
Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts  
(Musical Theatre)  
Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts  
(Music Performance)

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## Teacher Instructions

**You should ensure you have read the relevant unit content from the specification and adhere to the guidance in *Section 9: External assessment*. You must also read the *Administrative Support Guide (ASG)* available on the website.**

### The nature of the work

Learners will complete a letter of application and a presentation and/or audition in response to a progression opportunity provided by Pearson. There will be a choice of four progression opportunities in each academic year.

The progression opportunities provide a selection of realistic employment, training and educational scenarios.

Each progression opportunity has specific guidelines about what the learner is required to prepare for their presentation and/or audition.

### Assessment authenticity

The evidence each learner submits for assessment must be individual and authentic.

As a teacher, you will be asked to confirm that:

- you know learners have provided an authentic response to the stimulus
- their work has been supervised and controlled properly
- you have retained records of the conduct of the assessments.

Alongside the registration process, your examinations officer will need to advise us that you intend for learners to sit the external assessment, by making an 'entry' for the learner.

You will be issued with an attendance register and guidance once entries are made.

### The main controls

- Teachers should not give support for work carried out under controlled conditions.
- Learners are not permitted to discuss their work with others during controlled conditions.
- Letter of application: teachers must ensure that all hard copy notes learners bring into the classroom are their own work. The final writing up of the application documentation for Unit 1 must be carried out under controlled conditions with the supervising teacher.
- Presentation and/or audition: a single, unedited DVD recording must be submitted for each learner. Recordings of presentations may be paused to allow learners to move to different parts of the learning space, as appropriate to their needs. Recordings should not be edited, amended or manipulated. Learners may not be assisted during the recording.
- Learners must clearly identify themselves at the beginning of the recording by stating their:
  - full name
  - full learner number
  - centre name
  - centre number
  - the progression opportunity (and option if relevant) they have chosen.

## Learner Instructions

### Selection and preparation

The four individual progression opportunities provide a selection of realistic employment, training and educational scenarios.

Each individual opportunity gives you specific guidelines about what you are required to prepare for either a presentation and/or an audition.

You must choose **one** of the four progression opportunities and complete the work required to provide an individual showcase, namely:

- a letter of application
- an audition and/or presentation.

You should discuss with your teacher the controls under which your work must be completed before you start any work.

### Performance and submission

#### Letter of application

Your teacher will arrange a formal time for you to complete a letter of application for your chosen showcase. You must include:

- your full name
- your learner number
- your centre name at the top of your letter
- your centre number at the top of your letter.

You should include details of the audition pieces and/or presentations that you have prepared. Once completed your letter should be converted to a PDF.

Your work must be your own and you will be asked to complete a declaration when your work is submitted.

#### Audition and/or presentation

Your teacher will also arrange a formal time for you to record your audition and/or presentation and will save it in electronic format, e.g. DVD, Windows Movie Player or Real Time Player file types.

#### At the beginning of the recording you must clearly state the following:

- your full name
- your full learner number
- your centre name
- your centre number
- the number of the progression opportunity you have chosen to complete. If there are any options available within your chosen progression opportunity, these should also be stated.

## **Progression Opportunity 1: Production Skills**

### **Skilled and Creative Sound & Lighting Technicians Required**

#### **Aspiring young jazz group playing at this year's young star events**

**The organisers need technicians to prepare, set up and operate the sound and lighting for this series of events.**

We are looking for sound and lighting specialists interested in working in challenging settings, such as local theatres, colleges and community centres, including some outside venues and marquees.

You must be able to set up and operate **either** sound or lighting equipment speedily and safely, work with a small group of enthusiastic young professionals, and deliver the best results every time.

You will have an interest in and knowledge of the set up and operation of one of the following:

**Sound: live sound for these exciting show locations**

**Lighting: lighting equipment for use in these locations during the shows**

You will need to know how to safely set up and operate a range of sound or lighting equipment appropriate for this series of events.

#### **You should prepare:**

- a letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions
- a presentation lasting 8–10 minutes communicating creative and effective ideas. It must include a five-minute demonstration of your technical work in the production area of lighting or sound, which should be specific to the requirements of the progression opportunity.

#### **Evidence of the following can be included in the presentation and demonstration.**

- For lighting – rigging, focusing and programming lights, documentation that can be used during performances, e.g. cue sheets, the use of technical language and references to lighting equipment.
- For sound – recording sound effects and soundtracks, preparing and setting up sound equipment that can be used for the events, documentation that could be used during performances, e.g. a sound cue sheet, the use of technical language and references to sound equipment.

## Progression Opportunity 2: Performance

### Celebrate the opening of

**The 'Arts in our Town' Community Centre – a new and exciting venue on the site of the old Chocolate Factory**

**We are looking for versatile performers for this gala event.**

You should have performance skills in at least **two** of the following areas:

**Singing or playing a musical instrument**

**Dance**

**Comedy**

**Speciality act**

You will need to perform in at least two skillful and imaginative performances that will help us launch and celebrate this new venue, so be prepared to show us two audition performances demonstrating your skills.

### You should prepare:

- a letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions
- an audition – you must demonstrate **two** contrasting pieces of performance, as detailed in the advertisement, each lasting 2–3 minutes. These **may** include:
  - musical performance – a vocal or instrumental piece unaccompanied or accompanied taken from original or existing material.
  - solo dance – based on pre-existing work or an original choreographed piece
  - comedy – original or pre-existing material taken from a play, sketch, stand up routine or comedy revue
  - speciality act – demonstration of skills and techniques, such as circus skills, illusions and close-hand tricks, ventriloquism or impersonations of famous people

### Progression Opportunity 3: Community

#### Looking for performers for a tour of youth centres

**Do you have the skills and dedication to join a small touring company delivering performances for youth centres on the theme of:**

#### ***Rights or Responsibilities?***

You will need to show us skills in working with a team towards a performance involving one of the following areas:

Acting  
Dancing  
Singing and/or playing a musical instrument  
Design for costume, set, props, masks or make-up  
Technical elements – sound, lighting

You must be able to collaborate with other performers and a director to develop high quality work, suitable for young people aged 11–16 years, on the theme of ***Rights or Responsibilities?***

#### **You should prepare:**

- a letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions
- **one** option from section A and **one** option from section B.

#### **Section A**

- A1. Acting audition – you should perform a 2–3 minute extract from a suitable published text or a pre-existing play. This could be from a published Theatre in Education (TIE) text or an extract from a play suitable for students aged 11–16 years.
- A2. Dance audition – you should perform a dance, lasting 1–2 minutes based on pre-existing work or a piece choreographed specifically for the workshop, suitable for students aged 11–16 years.
- A3. Music audition – you should perform a 2–3 minute extract from a pre-existing piece. This could be from a published score, Theatre in Education (TIE) text, or an extract from a musical work suitable for students aged 11–16 years.
- A4. Technical demonstration – you should deliver a 4–5 minute demonstration showing your own practical and imaginative technical work in the production areas of lighting **and/or** sound, appropriate for use during a tour to youth centre venues, for a Theatre in Education (TIE) performance suitable for students aged 11–16 years.

## Section B

Using the theme of *Rights or Responsibilities?* you should prepare a five-minute presentation for **one** of the following options.

- B1. Ideas for practical drama workshop activities – this should include explanations of the purpose of the activities and/or practical demonstrations of the activities.
- B2. Ideas for practical dance workshop activities – this should include explanations of the purpose of the activities and/or practical demonstrations of the activities.
- B3. Ideas for practical music/singing workshop activities – this should include explanations of the purpose of the activities and/or practical demonstrations of the activities.
- B4. Design ideas for production elements – this should include explanations of the production concept and/or plans and examples of design ideas for any of the following elements: set, props, costume, make-up, masks, sound, lighting, multimedia elements, appropriate for use during a tour to youth centre venues.

## Progression Opportunity 4: Education

### The Theatre School Performance and Production courses

#### What's your next step?

#### Auditions for performing arts students

**Be ready to showcase your skills and potential in performance or production.**

#### Tutors are looking for:

Evidence of performance and/or production experience

Enthusiasm for the performing arts

Courses will help you develop skills within performance or production design through one of these exciting pathways:

Dance

Acting

Musical Theatre

Music Performance

Production Arts (Design)

**Audition or presentation on the theme of discovery:** applicants will need to show their skills associated with the chosen pathway in two imaginative pieces of performance, or a presentation, in response to the theme.

You should prepare appropriate material for your chosen pathway.

#### Dance

- A letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions.
- An audition, selecting two **contrasting** dance pieces of your own choosing, each lasting 1–2 minutes, in response to the theme **discovery**.

#### Acting

- A letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions.
- An audition, selecting two **contrasting** extracts from any published texts of your own choosing, each lasting 2–3 minutes, in response to the theme **discovery**.

Please note we do not recommend using materials from published collections of monologues.

### **Musical Theatre**

- A letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions.
- An audition, selecting two **contrasting** extracts from musical theatre works of your own choosing, each lasting 2–3 minutes in response to the theme **discovery**. At least one of the extracts must include a dance sequence.

### **Music Performance**

- A letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions.
- An audition, selecting two **contrasting** music pieces of your own choosing, each lasting 2–3 minutes in response to the theme **discovery**.

### **Production Arts (Design)**

- A letter of application specific to the advertisement – you should take no longer than two hours to complete the letter under controlled conditions.
- A presentation lasting 8–10 minutes, communicating creative and effective ideas, showing examples of design work, including preparatory planning and realised designs for a production of your own choosing in response to the theme **discovery**. This could include explanations of the production concept and/or plans and examples of design/production ideas for any of the following elements: set, props, costume, lighting, sound, masks, make-up or multimedia.