

MUSICAL THEATRE MARKING GUIDANCE

**Learning Outcomes, Attainment Bands,
Weighting and Grading Criteria**

The examination is marked with credits awarded through:

- Performance and Understanding and Reflection for Premiere candidates
- Performance, Technical Skills Demonstration, and Understanding and Reflection for Debut to Grade 8 candidates

LEARNING OUTCOMES

LEARNING OUTCOMES		
PREMIERE CANDIDATES		
Learning Outcomes	Exam Section	Percentage of final mark
Learning Outcome 1: The learner will perform in a group piece of musical theatre	Group Performance	90%
Learning Outcome 3: The learner will understand individual content and context in musical theatre	Understanding and Reflection	10%

LEARNING OUTCOMES		
DEBUT TO GRADE 8 CANDIDATES		
Learning Outcomes	Exam Section	Percentage of final mark
Learning Outcome 1: The learner will perform in a group piece of musical theatre	Group Performance	60%
Learning Outcome 2: The learner will demonstrate technical skills relevant to musical theatre	Technical Skills Demonstration	30%
Learning Outcome 3: The learner will understand individual content and context in musical theatre	Understanding and Reflection	10%

ATTAINMENT BANDS

The attainment bands for Musical Theatre graded examinations are as follows:

ATTAINMENT BANDS	
Unclassified	0-49%
Pass	50-64%
Merit	65-84%
Distinction	85% and above

ASSESSMENT WEIGHTING

The weighting for each component is described below:

ASSESSMENT WEIGHTING	
Exam Section	Assessment Criteria Weighting
Group Performance	Performance 60% Technique 40%
Technical Skills Demonstration (Debut – Grade 8 only)	Technique 60% Performance 40%
Understanding and Reflection	Understanding and Reflection 100%

GRADING CRITERIA

Grading Criteria for each component of the exam are described below.

They must be read in conjunction with the specific assessment criteria for the relevant grade/discipline.

Please refer to the content specification for each grade.

PERFORMANCE		
KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND UNDERSTANDING		
Acting	Singing	Dancing
An understanding of the text is expected at all grades, and accurate word memory from Debut. As grades progress, requirements include interpretation, an understanding of character, emotions, subtext, period, style and a sense of spontaneity.	An understanding of the meaning and mood of the song is expected at all grades. As grades progress, requirements include an awareness of character, intention, dynamic variation, communication to the audience and stylistic understanding.	An understanding of the mood of the music is expected at all grades. As grades progress, requirements include characterisation, musical interpretation, communication to the audience and stylistic understanding.

PERFORMANCE			
GRADING CRITERIA			
Unclassified	Pass	Merit	Distinction
0-9	10-12	13-16	17-20
The assessment criteria for performance at the relevant grade and discipline was not demonstrated to an acceptable standard for the majority of the time, or throughout. There was limited or no evidence of interpretative awareness.	The assessment criteria for performance at the relevant grade and discipline was demonstrated to an acceptable, or mostly acceptable, standard. Generally sound interpretative awareness evident. A satisfactory presentation of work.	The assessment criteria for performance at the relevant grade and discipline was demonstrated to a proficient, or mostly proficient, standard. Assured interpretative awareness evident most of the time. A secure presentation of work.	The assessment criteria for performance at the relevant grade and discipline was demonstrated to a consistently high standard throughout, or almost throughout. Strong interpretative awareness evident. A sustained and convincing presentation of work.

TECHNIQUE

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND UNDERSTANDING

Acting	Singing	Dancing
Use of facial expression and voice, appropriate to the meaning and mood of the text is expected at all grades. As grades progress, requirements include vocal modulation, projection, phrasing, physical characterisation, movement and gesture.	Audibility is expected at all grades. As grades progress, requirements include timing, pitch, rhythmic awareness, articulation, phrasing, intonation, breath control and resonance.	Coordination and timing is expected at all grades. As grades progress, requirements include rhythmic and spatial awareness, control, alignment, core stability, balance and dynamic variation.

TECHNIQUE

GRADING CRITERIA

Unclassified	Pass	Merit	Distinction
0-9	10-12	13-16	17-20
The assessment criteria for technique at the relevant grade and discipline was not demonstrated to a satisfactory standard throughout, or most of the time. There was limited or no evidence of technical accuracy.	The assessment criteria for technique at the relevant grade and discipline was demonstrated to a satisfactory, or mostly satisfactory, standard. A technically acceptable presentation of work.	The assessment criteria for technique at the relevant grade and discipline was demonstrated to a proficient, or mostly proficient, standard. A technically secure presentation of work.	The assessment criteria for technique at the relevant grade and discipline was demonstrated to a consistently high standard throughout, or almost throughout. A technically strong presentation of work.

UNDERSTANDING AND REFLECTION

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND UNDERSTANDING

Through answers to the questions, a general understanding of the Group Performance piece is expected at all grades. As the grades progress, requirements include an understanding of characters, context, rehearsal processes, stylistic features of the performance and critique of candidate's own performance.

UNDERSTANDING AND REFLECTION

GRADING CRITERIA

Unclassified	Pass	Merit	Distinction
0-9	10-12	13-16	17-20
The assessment criteria for Understanding and Reflection at the relevant grade was not demonstrated for the majority of the time, or throughout. Limited, or no answers to questions evident.	The assessment criteria for Understanding and Reflection at the relevant grade was demonstrated to a satisfactory standard. Generally acceptable answers to questions.	The assessment criteria for Understanding and Reflection at the relevant grade was demonstrated to a proficient standard. Generally secure answers to questions.	The assessment criteria for Understanding and Reflection at the relevant grade was demonstrated to a high standard throughout. Consistently insightful answers to questions.