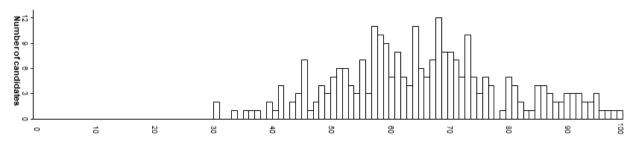


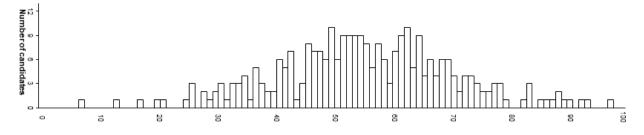
Summary report for candidates on the 2015 WACE examination in Dance Stage 3

Year	Number who sat all examination components	Number of absentees from all examination components
2015	265	8
2014	142	2
2013	309	7

Examination score distribution – Practical



Examination score distribution – Written



Summary

Candidates completed a practical and written examination, each equally weighted at 50%.

Practical examination

The practical examination consisted of three performances and an interview. The mean for the examination was 66.30%. The means for performances one, two, three and the interview were 71.84%, 65.95%, 62.05% and 56.62% respectively. Candidate scores ranged from 15.28 to 50.00 out of a possible 50.00%. The standard deviation was 7.24%.

Written examination

The written examination consisted of two sections with candidates being required to attempt all four questions in Section One and to choose two of the three questions in Section Two. The mean for the examination was 55.66%. The means for Sections One and Two were 57.85% and 54.39% respectively. Candidate scores for the examination ranged from 3.65 to 48.81 out of a possible 50.00%. The standard deviation was 7.63%.

General comments

Practical examination

Overall, candidates were well prepared for this examination. They demonstrated sound knowledge of course content and compliance with examination processes and procedures. The one aspect of dance performances that does require further attention by candidates and teachers though is use of space. It was evident that some candidates had not practiced their performances in an appropriate sized space or in varied performance spaces prior to the examination.

Advice for candidates

- Wear appropriate tights or leggings that fit well avoid short-waist/hipster styles and baggy styles as these can all interfere with your performance and distract markers.
- Avoid wearing T-Shirts that are too loose or too short as they can interfere with your performance and distract markers.
- Use discretion when choosing which underwear/undergarments you wear under your dance top or leotard. Garments should not be visible and should fit appropriately so that they do not interfere with your performance or distract from your performance.
- Use the 60 and 90 second timeframes to orientate yourself prior to performing your original solo composition and the set solo.
- Tie long hair up or back so that it does not hide your face during performances.
- Ensure that if you use a prop in the original solo composition that it is integral to your performance.

Written examination

Overall, candidates performed well on the examination demonstrating a sound understanding of the stimulus material in Section One and their case studies in Section Two. However, many candidates struggled with the question which addressed biomechanical principles and it was evident that some candidates produced pre-prepared extended answers in Section Two that did not address the question appropriately.

Advice for candidates

- Ensure that you are familiar with the biomechanical principles.
- Read the questions carefully in Section Two and structure your response in accordance with the dot points and mark allocations.
- Ensure that you relate your case study to the chosen question.

Comments on specific sections and questions Practical examination Original solo composition

Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 12.57(/17.5) Max 17.50 Min 6.12 Overall, the original solo compositions were well-rehearsed with many inventive ideas and themes being explored in candidate performances.

Criterion 1: Choreographic intent

Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 2.75(/4) Max 4 Min 1 Many candidates' statement of choreographic intent often described their dance work rather than stating their intent and also lacked linkage to choreography. Some candidates prefaced ideas, concepts or use of a prop in their statement but did not actually realise this in performance.

<i>Criterion 2: Organising the dance structure</i> Attempted by 263 candidates The majority of students structured their wo	Mean 3.87(/6) rk effectively.	Max 6	Min 2
<i>Criterion 3: Presentation</i> Attempted by 263 candidates Most candidates presented their work with o	Mean 3.69(/5) confidence.	Max 5	Min 1

Criterion 4: Performance qualities

Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 2.17(/3) Max 3 Min 1 Most candidates developed original solo compositions which featured appropriate personal style, expression and performance persona.

Criterion 5: Safe dance practices and alignment Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 1.90(/2) Max 2 Min 1 All candidates applied safe dance practices and alignment throughout the examination.
Set solo Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 11.54(/17.5) Max 17.50 Min 4.90 Some candidates struggled to successfully complete the set solo due to being extremely nervous, ill-prepared or being disoriented in the venue.
Criterion 1: Execution of technical dance skills Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 3.59(/6) Max 6 Min 1 Most candidates demonstrated competent execution of the dance skills related to the set solo.
<i>Criterion 2: Body alignment</i> Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 3.09(/5) Max 5 Min 1 Most candidates demonstrated appropriate body alignment in their performance of the set solo.
Criterion 3: Interpretation of choreographic intent Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 2.40(/4) Max 4 Min 0 Overall, candidates demonstrated a sound understanding of the choreographic intent of the set solo.
<i>Criterion 4: Musicality</i> Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 2.23(/3) Max 3 Min 0 Most candidates showed musicality in their performance of the set solo.
Criterion 5: PresentationAttempted by 263 candidatesMean 2.67(/4)Max 4Min 1Most candidates were confident, committed and focused in their performance of the set solo.Some students did struggle with the work.
Criterion 6: Performance accuracy Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 2.50(/3) Max 3 Min 0 The majority of candidates performed the set solo accurately with just a few candidates forgetting some sections of the work.
Structured improvisationAttempted by 263 candidatesMean 6.21(/10)Max 10Min 0Some candidates received full marks for this section whilst others presented practiced routineswhich indicated that they had not fully understood the requirements of the task. Most candidatesused the 7-minute time limit effectively to prepare for their performance.
Criterion 1: Ideas and movement choices in responding to task Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 3.54(/6) Max 6 Min 0 Many candidates used appropriate skills in their improvisation and successfully completed the task given to them. Some candidates presented a pre-prepared practiced performance though which was not appropriate. Candidates who showed a clear start and finish to their improvisation were rewarded whilst a minority of candidates had to be stopped by the markers due to poor timing.
Criterion 2: Confidence, commitment and creativity in performance Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 2.66(/4) Max 4 Min 0 On the whole candidates were confident and committed in their performance of the

improvisation. Those candidates who were particularly creative in their interpretation of the task typically received full marks.

Interview

Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 2.83(/5) Max 5 Min 0 Candidates performed well generally in the interview. However, some candidates did not listen carefully to the questions being asked and merely delivered 'stock' responses that appeared to have been rehearsed for the interview.

Criterion 1: Response

Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 3.31(/6) Max 6 Min 0 The majority of candidates answered the interview questions critically but the responses of some candidates were irrelevant or lacking in detail.

Criterion 2: Dance terminology and language

Attempted by 263 candidates Mean 2.35(/4) Max 4 Min 0 Candidates used some appropriate terminology in their responses but higher marks would have been gained if candidates had used more dance-specific language when discussing particular concepts, skills and processes.

Written examination

Section One: Short answer

Attempted by 281 candidates Mean 11.57(/20) Max 19.52 Min 1.9 Overall, candidates performed well on this section of the examination demonstrating that they had a thorough knowledge of the stimulus work *Shimmer*. However, candidates continue to show a poor understanding of the biomechanical principles.

Section Two: Extended answer

Attempted by 280 candidates Mean 16.32(/30) Max 30.00 Min 1.75 The extended answers produced in this section were fairly well written but it is obvious that some candidates ignored or overlooked some of the dot point scaffolding of the questions and therefore were not awarded any marks for that particular part of the question.