



Primary

GUIDE TO ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE EXAMINATION MARKING SCHEME

Dear Parents and Candidates,

This guide has been prepared to provide you with information about the Royal Academy of Dance Examination marking system. It is designed to help you understand how the Examiners approach their task of assessing the quality of all those taking RAD examinations.

Firstly you should read the Assessment Criteria which indicate the areas in which candidates are being marked and rewarded for their achievement and progress at each examination. Then the mark allocation table, which shows how the marks, based on the assessment criteria, are allocated to specific areas. Finally the marking guidance table will show you the precise way in which marks are awarded.

We have tried to make this guide as clear as possible but if you need any help in understanding the information or any of the technical language please contact your teacher, who will be very willing to help.

As you will see from the information in this guide the RAD takes its examining role very seriously and our sole concern is the encouragement and success of the students who take our examinations.

If you are a candidate, good luck in your examinations. If you are a parent, congratulations on encouraging your child in their love of dance

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lynn Wallis'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

Artistic Director

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR GRADED EXAMINATIONS: PRIMARY

Classical Ballet, Free Movement and Character consist of three interrelated areas - Technique, Music and Performance - which are reflected throughout the Assessment Criteria.

Each area includes a number of elements, which are also interrelated, and some of which are added as the examinations increase in complexity, thus making further demands on the students at each stage of their learning.

In the examination, candidates will be assessed on their ability to:

- 1 perform a series of Classical Ballet exercises which require correct weight placement, controlled use of the turnout, firmly held body, open relaxed shoulders, co-ordination of the whole body, accurate alignment, use of space, correct use of legs and feet, elevation with controlled landings, and the ability to shape arms.
- 2 perform a series of Free Movement exercises which require relaxation, transference of weight, suspension, free-flowing movement, co-ordination of the whole body and use of a small scarf or flag.
- 3 perform a series of Rhythm exercises which require a firm hold of the body, correct arm placement, co-ordination of clapping and leg actions.
- 4 dance, throughout the examination, in time to the music and show responsiveness to the music.
- 5 dance, throughout the examination, with expression.
- 6 perform a Classical Dance, which requires all the above aspects of Technique, Music and Performance.

MARK ALLOCATION TABLE

CLASSICAL SECTION		
	Mark allocation	
CLASSICAL TECHNIQUE 1 (<i>Table A</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct weight placement • Controlled use of the turnout 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firmly held body • Open and relaxed shoulders 	10
CLASSICAL TECHNIQUE 2 (<i>Table A</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordination of the whole body • Accurate alignment • Use of space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to shape arms • Elevation with controlled landings • Correct use of legs and feet 	10
MUSIC (<i>Table B</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct timing • Responsiveness to the music 		10
PRESENTATION (<i>Table PR1</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expression 		10
OTHER SECTIONS		
FREE MOVEMENT EXERCISES (<i>Table D</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relaxation • Transference of weight • Suspension • Free-flowing movement • Co-ordination of the whole body 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of small scarf or flag • Correct timing • Responsiveness to the music • Expression 	10
RHYTHM EXERCISES (<i>Table D</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firm hold of body • Correct arm placement • Co-ordination of clapping and leg actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct timing • Responsiveness to the music • Expression 	10
CLASSICAL DANCE TECHNIQUE (As Classical Technique 1 and 2) (<i>Table A</i>) MUSIC AND PRESENTATION (<i>Table PR2</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct timing • Responsiveness to the music • Expression 		10 10
TOTAL	<i>(Scaled to 100)</i>	80

TABLE A: Classical Technique 1 and 2, including Dance	
0 marks	The work was not shown.
1 – 3 marks	The candidate showed little awareness of many of the elements assessed.
4 marks	The candidate was able to demonstrate the elements assessed some of the time. Technique was often not well established.
5 – 6 marks	The candidate showed a fairly good ability to demonstrate the elements assessed, although some may be stronger than others. Technique was fairly well established.

7 – 8 marks	The candidate showed a generally good ability to demonstrate the elements assessed, although one or two may be less strong than others. Technique was mostly secure.
9 – 10 marks	The candidate was able to demonstrate the elements assessed almost all the time, although one or two may be less strong than others. Technique was secure.

MARKING GUIDANCE TABLE

TABLE B: Music (Classical)	
0 marks	The work was not shown.
1 – 3 marks	The candidate was seldom in time with the music.
4 marks	The candidate was in time with the music for more than half the exercises but showed only occasional ability to respond to the music.
5 – 6 marks	The candidate was in time with the music for more than half the exercises and was able to respond to the music fairly well.
7 – 8 marks	The candidate was in time with the music for almost all the exercises and showed a generally good response to the music.
9 – 10 marks	The candidate was in time with the music for almost all the exercises and was able to respond to the music very well.

TABLE PR1: Presentation (Classical)	
0 marks	The work was not shown.
1 – 3 marks	The candidate showed little expression throughout the examination or appeared nervous or hesitant.
4 marks	The candidate occasionally showed some expression.
5 – 6 marks	The candidate showed expression but with no variation.
7 – 8 marks	The candidate showed expression with some variation.
9 – 10 marks	The candidate showed varied expression and succeeded in communicating real enjoyment of dancing.

TABLE D: Free Movement and Rhythm and Character exercises	
0 marks	The work was not shown.
1 – 3 marks	The candidate showed little awareness of many of the elements assessed.
4 marks	The candidate was able to demonstrate the elements assessed some of the time.
5 – 6 marks	The candidate showed a fairly good ability to demonstrate the elements assessed, although some may be stronger than others.
7 – 8 marks	The candidate showed a generally good ability to demonstrate the elements assessed, although one or two may be less strong than others.
9 – 10 marks	The candidate was able to demonstrate the elements assessed almost all the time, although one or two may be less strong than others.

TABLE PR2: Classical Dance - Music and Presentation

0 marks	The work was not shown.
1 – 3 marks	The candidate showed little awareness of music or presentation.
4 marks	The candidate showed some musical awareness and sense of presentation, although one element may be stronger than the other.
5 – 6 marks	The candidate showed a fairly good musical awareness and sense of presentation, although one element may be stronger than the other.
7 – 8 marks	The candidate showed good musical awareness and a good sense of presentation, although one element may be a little stronger than the other.
9 – 10 marks	The candidate showed very good musical awareness and a real sense of presentation.