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91938



Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 1 Dance 2024

91938 Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between cultural context and key features of a dance genre or style

Credits: Four

ASSESSMENT TASK

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between cultural context and key features of a dance genre or style.	Explain the relationship between cultural context and key features of a dance genre or style.	Examine the relationship between cultural context and key features of a dance genre or style.

Refer to this booklet to respond to the task for Dance 91938.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–3 in the correct order and that neither of these pages is blank.

Do not use chatbots, generative AI, or other tools that can automatically generate content.

DO NOT TAKE THESE ASSESSMENT MATERIALS OUT OF THE ASSESSMENT ROOM.

Merit

TOTAL **05**

1930's Lindy Hop - Swing dance



Swing came from a depressing time period where people were looking for happiness and hope. This dance style was born during the end of the great depression after world war one in Chicago, United States of America but quickly moved all around the country including Harlem, New York which was the home place of the Savoy ballroom. Swing is a combination of the charleston and freeform African American dance. The Savoy ballroom was a place for anyone no matter race, sexuality, or religion. With there being such a diverse number of patrons visiting the savoy ballroom it created a very unique style of dance, that is known as swing, that can be performed by anyone.

Important movements in Lindy Hop



The Lindy Hop has a great variety of movements that range from being more stiff and upright to just having fun and throwing your partner around, this creates a youthful, high energy feel to the dance style that is reflected in the music usually performed along with the dance. We see this through the posture of dancers especially when they are doing the tap sections, the dancers are in a seated position while leaning their upper body forward. This is a sharp comparison to when they are performing the 40's charleston basic and kick the dog, both of these

movements are done in an upright position with limbs loose so they are able to flick and fly freely which brings a playful quality to the dance, this posture though is ultimately very similar to the 1920's charleston and other european dance styles. The movements such as the tap section and rusty dusty, however, are important in showing how African Americans influenced the style. The African American influence is also felt with weight distribution throughout the dance like in the

triple step which mimics European partner dances while still playing with weight distribution to create unique angles not seen in many other dances. The free flowing quality of the swinging movements within the dance reflect on how people were desperate for some form of joy after coming out of a harsh period of time.

The main moves were the swing out and the 40's charleston basic, this reflects how people were wanting a way to express themselves through dance and the music of the thirties. These moves came from the longing of a happier time in people's lives, as the thirties was the small break between world wars. Through the swinging motion of the dance it conveys the joy and pure happiness people were feeling as there was a chance for the younger generation to transform the thirties into something memorable.

The typical roles of Lindy Hop



When the Lindy Hop was starting to gain popularity with the masses it was performed largely by a man and a woman but eventually it created a space where people could dance with anyone no matter their height, race, gender, or physical ability. This was a distinct difference between swing and previous styles as swing and lindy hop allowed its dancers to relax and just let go in any way they wanted too as they were only a couple of core movements for swing like the 40's charleston basic, and the swing out. This allowed for many different kinds of partnering to occur such as two women, two men, short and tall people all partnered together, this created a great

environment for queer, black, and disabled people to gather as swing was a dance made from people having fun with no strict rules. This difference in gender roles compared to other dances that came before was that traditionally a taller man would dance with a shorter woman, that all changed with the onset of swing dancing. Even though the Savoy ballroom was filled with diversity, many other places refused to even have black people in the audience of a Lindy Hop performance. With the range of diverse people performing this dance it made it so there was no definite leader role assigned to a gender, but many still made the male dancer the lead and the female dancer the follow. This reflects the time period as this was when North America was more accepting of differences in people, but it still reflects how many still were hesitant to change their ways hence the idea of swing being a white male and female partnered dance.

The typical role in Lindy Hop for a dancer was really just having a partner even the professionals didn't worry about interracial partnerships or same gender partnering. Many times they even partnered with family or friends for example Frankie Manning danced with his son later in his career while in early days he would dance with multiple different people from Whitey's Lindy Hoppers. This troop had mainly black dancers with one jewish couple, Frankie states that they didn't see colour in the troop, only talent. Even though this was the ideas of the group, many places they would tour made it so that only males and females could partner together with no interracial partnerships when performing for a big crowd.

References

<https://blackpepperswing.com/posts/articles/a-not-so-brief-history-of-swing-dance/>

<https://www.sugarfootstomp.co.nz/origins-of-swing-dancing>

<https://www.arch.columbia.edu/books/reader/928-disappearing-queer-spaces#reader-anchor-5>

<https://www.pbs.org/video/thirteen-specials-frankie-manning-never-stop-swinging/>

Photo reference

1st photo:

<https://atlanticindyhopper.wordpress.com/2015/10/09/7/>

2nd Photo:

https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rivercityswingout.com%2Fwhat-is-lindy-hop&psig=AOvVaw11yIGlbc1la_Q73yar_rL6&ust=1726878508591000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBcQjhxqFwoTCNiPj4qi0IgDFQAAAAAdAAAAABAE

3rd photo:

<https://www.swingjunction.org/post/video-99-years-of-norma-miller-the-queen-of-swing> - Photo of Jimmy Valentine and female dance partner.

Merit

Subject: Dance

Standard: 91938

Total score: 05

Grade score	Marker commentary
M5	<p>The candidate describes important movement in some detail, referring to specific body parts, energy qualities, posture and use of weight. Various aspects of the movement are described and then linked to the cultural context, with some supporting evidence. For example, the comparison to other specific dance forms at the time and specific communities that may have influenced the style.</p> <p>The candidate explains the historical context, for example; depression and racism and then continues to explain how Lindy Hop movements evolved as a result from the historical context; “the free flowing quality of the swinging movements of the dance reflect on how people were desperate for some form of joy” and “these moves came from a longing of a happier time.”</p> <p>More direct reflection - on how specific aspects and details of the important movement reflect specific aspects of the cultural context - would strengthen the evidence.</p> <p>The candidate describes a typical role. Although somewhat limited this is then justified by some specific evidence referencing ‘Frankie Manning’. The candidate also explains how and why the typical role connects to the time period and place and how this influenced the typical role.</p> <p>Overall, the candidate has explained how and why key features of the dance genre or style are connected and may be influenced by aspects of the cultural context, with some supporting evidence to justify the response.</p> <p>The candidate explains the historical context, for example; depression and racism and then continues to explain how Lindy Hop movements evolved as a result from the historical context; “the free flowing quality of the swinging movements of the dance reflect on how people were desperate for some form of joy” and “these moves came from a longing of a happier time.”</p>