

Assessment Specifications

Level 2 Dance 2024

Published in December 2023

General information

Domain: Dance Perspectives

Assessment method: Examination

Assessment medium: Printed paper

Standards: 91211, 91212

[Dance subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

Information relating to all achievement standards

For each standard, three questions will be provided, and candidates will be required to answer all three questions. Note that this is a change from the 2023 examination.

Questions may include bullet point suggestions to provide guidance for candidates in answering the questions. These bullet points are not intended to limit candidates' answers.

Questions will require answers in extended paragraph or essay form. Answers should be supported by specific examples, and candidates may also use bullet points and diagrams, where relevant, to support their discussion. Diagrams should be labelled clearly and will be assessed on the quality of information conveyed, and not their artistic merit (i.e. simple stick figures are satisfactory).

Candidates must use ink for both sketched and written answers.

Information in planning spaces will not be marked.

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard: 91211

Title: Provide an interpretation of a dance performance with supporting evidenceS

Version: 2

Number of credits: 4

Candidates will be required to answer THREE questions on key aspects of a dance performance they have studied. In 2024, candidates should be familiar with aspects of:

- visual design
- closing moment
- element of space
- contrast.

Candidates will be given 5 minutes to read the questions. A recording of the dance performance (3–6 minutes in duration) will then be shown twice, with a pause of 10 minutes in between. Candidates may start making notes or answering the questions at any time after the examination begins.

Candidates may refer to key aspects not shown in the recording to support their answers.

The dance performance

The dance performance should have sufficient variation and content to enable candidates to analyse and evaluate. Examples of suitable dances include:

Dance	From	Choreographer	Company
Section 1	<i>Trees, Birds then People</i>	Shona McCullagh	NZDC
Milagros		Javier De Frutos	RNZB
Poor Boy	<i>Ihi FreNZy</i>	Mark Baldwin	RNZB
Steps in the Street	<i>Chronicle</i>	Martha Graham	Martha Graham Dance Company
Little Red Rooster	<i>Rooster</i>	Christopher Bruce	Rambert Dance Company
Opening section	<i>Ghost Dances</i>	Christopher Bruce	Rambert Dance Company
Swan Song	<i>Swan Song</i>	Christopher Bruce	Rambert Dance Company
Various	<i>Mauri</i>	Stephen Bradshaw	Atamira Dance Company
Various	<i>Run</i>	Marc Brew	Touch Compass Dance Company
Tawhirimatea	<i>Rotunda</i>	Shona McCullagh	NZDC
Passchendaele	<i>Salute</i>	Neil Ieremia	RNZB
Anatomy of a Passing Cloud		Javier De Frutos	RNZB

For further information, refer to the [Explanatory Notes of achievement standard 91211](#) and the most recent Assessment Report.

The recording

The recording of the dance performance may comprise either a complete work, or a single continuous excerpt from a longer work. It must:

- include only the 3–6 minutes of material that is to be viewed by the candidates
- NOT be a compilation of excerpts
- be of a dance work that is choreographed, performed and filmed to a professional standard, and include no acting footage that is not integral to the choreography
- show at least THREE dancers
- feature minimal editing (e.g. long shots, close-ups, and special filming effects), which does not detract from the candidates' overall view and understanding of the work.

The recording may be presented on any medium that can produce a high-quality display on a 60 cm screen. The recording must include only a single instance (or “playing”) of the 3–6 minutes of material.

Resources to be supplied by the school

The school must provide to the Exam Centre Manager, for each examination space:

- TWO copies of the recording of the dance performance
- a means of displaying the recording (i.e. monitor or screen) at least 60 cm (25 in) in size (measured on the diagonal)
- a means of playing the recording, plus a back-up device.

If the dance performance is not one from the list of suggestions above, the recording must be provided to NZQA. Further information on the submission of this material will be made available in 2024.

Standard:	91212
Title:	Demonstrate understanding of a dance genre or style in context
Version:	2
Number of credits:	4

Candidates will be required to answer three questions on a dance genre or style they have studied. The questions will relate to the relationship of the dance genre or style to its context, as well as features of the dance genre or style and how these have stayed the same or changed over time. In 2024, candidates should be familiar with:

- a significant person and/or group
- movement
- sound
- technology.

Candidates must refer to the same dance genre or style throughout, but may refer to a number of specific dances in the genre or style.

Candidates would benefit from having experienced the dance genre or style. Examples of suitable dance genres or styles include, but are not limited to:

- ballet (e.g. court dance, Romantic ballet)
- modern (e.g. Martha Graham, Isadora Duncan)
- contemporary/post-modern (e.g. Merce Cunningham)

- hip-hop (e.g. krumping, b-boy, clowning)
- kapa haka
- gumboot dance
- capoeira
- lindy hop
- Fosse jazz
- Argentinian tango
- tap dance (e.g. industrial tap).

For further information, refer to the [Explanatory Notes of achievement standard 91212](#) and the Assessment Report.