Jazz Dance

Socks must not be worn.

Definition

Jazz technique combines strong body control, clear lines and shapes, dynamic changes, grounded movement, isolations and a strong connection to the music. It can have the relaxed, blues-influenced qualities of traditional Jazz, or the more theatrical qualities of industry Jazz.

Marking Criteria

TECHNIQUE — **30 points**

- Strong technical foundation
- Core control and body alignment
- Clear use of Jazz lines and shapes
- Isolations, contractions and extensions
- Control of weight and centre of gravity
- Sharp directional changes and sustained movement

MUSICALITY — **20 points**

- Strong connection to the music
- Response to rhythm, accents and dynamics
- Use of breath, suspension and phrasing

ARTISTRY AND PERFORMANCE — **30 points**

- Stylistic confidence
- Precision and control
- Individuality and stage presence
- Clear interpretation of the chosen Jazz style

CHOREOGRAPHY — **20 points**

- Originality and structure
- Clear relationship between movement and music
- Variety of dynamics and movement qualities
- Choreography suited to the dancer's strengths

Notes

Acrobatic elements and floorwork, where used, must support the Jazz choreography and not become the main focus.