Your notes

GCSE Dance: revision notes

The choreographic process

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The process

- Researching: finding out about the **stimulus**, such as a poem, image, object or idea.
- Improvising: exploring movement ideas freely in response to the **stimulus**.
- Generating: creating movement material, such as **motifs**.
- Selecting: choosing the best material that shows the intention.
- Developing: changing and extending the material.
- Structuring: organising it into a clear structure.
- **Refining** and synthesising: polishing the details so everything works together.

Stimuli and intention

- Stimuli can be auditory (music, sounds), visual (pictures, films), kinaesthetic (movement itself), tactile (touch and objects) or ideational (an idea or story).
- The **choreographic intention** is what the dance aims to communicate, such as a theme, mood or story.

Component 1 choreography

- In Component 1 you choreograph a solo or group dance in response to a **stimulus** set by AQA.
- Performance and choreography together make up 60% of the GCSE.

Key terms

Stimulus	A starting point that inspires a dance.
Choreographic intention	What a dance aims to communicate.
Improvisation	Exploring movement freely.
Motif	A short movement phrase that is repeated and developed.

Ideational stimulus	An idea or story that inspires a dance.
Kinaesthetic stimulus	Movement itself used as a starting point.
Refining	Polishing the details of a dance.

Quick questions

Cover the answers and test yourself: remembering is what makes it stick.

1. What is a stimulus?
2. What is a choreographic intention?
3. What type of stimulus is a piece of music?
4. What type of stimulus is an idea or story?
5. What is improvisation?
6. What is a motif?
7. What happens at the selecting stage?
8. What type of stimulus is an object you can touch?

Answers

1. A starting point that inspires a dance
2. What a dance aims to communicate
3. Auditory
4. Ideational
5. Exploring movement freely
6. A short movement phrase that is repeated and developed
7. Choosing the best material for the intention
8. Tactile

What to do next

Practise 10 questions on this topic

Try 3 exam questions, with mark schemes

Read the lesson, one step at a time

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