

Marking Standards

This is an NEA guide to:

- Marking Bands
- Levels of Achievement
- Allocation of Marks
- Level Descriptors

All NEA examinations are marked out of a total of 100

Marking Bands

Distinction	80 and Above
Merit	70 and Above
Pass	60 and Above
Below Pass	59 and Below

Levels Of Achievement

Pass

Learners should:

- Achieve the learner outcomes
- Demonstrate satisfactory preparation
- Demonstrate satisfactory work
- Demonstrate basic attention to detail
- Demonstrate a basic background knowledge of all selections
- Show a basic understanding of any theory set

Merit

Learners should:

- Achieve the learner outcomes
- Demonstrate good preparation
- Demonstrate good, clear and expressive work
- Demonstrate good attention to detail
- Demonstrate a good background knowledge of all selections
- Demonstrate good understanding of any theory set

Distinction

Learners should:

- Achieve the learner outcomes
- Demonstrate excellent preparation
- Demonstrate excellent, clear and expressive work
- Demonstrate excellent attention to detail
- Demonstrate excellent background knowledge of all selections
- Demonstrate excellent background knowledge of any theory set

Allocation of Marks

Marks for examination performances are given equally for technique, interpretation and communication

Technique

- The technical skills required in the preparation and performance of the selection
- This includes vocal technique, physicality, movement, stagecraft and teamwork where appropriate

Interpretation

- The artistic realisation of the selection presented demonstrating appropriate qualities required for performance
- This includes the appreciation of and the thought process in achieving the writer's intention

Communication

- To demonstrate the ability to share mentally, vocally and physically in performance and discussion to the appropriate grade

Discussion or Presentation

- To convey the required knowledge to the appropriate level for the Grade:
 - **Communication Examinations** via Discussion with the Examiner
 - **Performance Examinations** through an informal but structured Presentation without notes

Level Descriptors

Entry Level

- Preparatory Grade
- Introductory Grade
- Preliminary Grade
- Transition Grade

Level 1 - Foundation

- Grade 1
- Grade 2
- Grade 3

Level 2 - Intermediate

- Grade 4
- Grade 5

Level 3 - Advanced

- Grade 6
- Grade 7
- Grade 8

Results should be received within 3 weeks of the examination. For all examinations, examiners will write a report and allocate marks. These marks will be randomly and regularly moderated by a senior moderator who is a member of the NEA senior team.