

World dance studies

IB DP Dance World dance studies full package

1. Investigating at a glance

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IB Dance dance investigation: a formal written report of at most 2500 words analysing the similarities and differences between two dance styles from different dance cultures or traditions, one familiar and one unfamiliar - 25 percent at HL.

Must-know: the pairing tests (contrast value, shared instruments); the four elements (actions, space, dynamics, relationships); historical and current contexts; the report with every claim evidenced and sources attributed.

2. Choosing the two styles

Choosing the two styles

One style familiar, one unfamiliar, from different dance cultures or traditions: contrast value (styles so alike make the comparison decorative) and shared instruments (a fair comparison needs communicative movement on both sides). The unfamiliar style is studied through research AND physical engagement.

Worked: a student trained in studio contemporary investigates hula kahiko: both centre the torso, but training, function and transmission differ.

3. Elements and contexts

Elements and contexts

The comparison runs on the elements: actions, space, dynamics, relationships. Each similarity or difference is explained through context: the historical context of each style, and its current context (who performs, where, for whom, how it is taught).

Worked: both styles centre the torso (similarity); contemporary isolates it as trained mechanics for a watching audience, while hula kahiko's torso carries text, the hands speaking the chant, inside a living ceremonial practice (difference explained by function).

4. The report

The report

Formal written work with a spine: the styles named, the elements chosen, the contexts researched, sources attributed throughout. Similarities and differences are analysed, not listed; the conclusion weighs what the comparison taught and what the physical engagement changed.

Worked: the conclusion names the connection (the torso as carrier of meaning, not only of technique) instead of closing with a catalogue.

Check yourself

Check yourself

Two styles, different cultures, familiar and unfamiliar.

Claims through the elements, evidenced and cited.

Both contexts; differences explained.

The conclusion weighing the connection.