

2009 HSC Entertainment Industry

Sample Answers

This document contains 'sample answers', or, in the case of some questions, 'answer may include'. These are developed by the examination committee for two purposes. The committee does this:

- (a) as part of the development of the examination paper to ensure the questions will effectively assess students' knowledge and skills, and
- (b) in order to provide some advice to the Supervisor of Marking about the nature and scope of the responses expected of students.

The 'sample answers' or similar advice, are not intended to be exemplary or even complete responses. They have been reproduced in their original form as part of the examination committee's 'working document'. While the handwritten notes have been typed for legibility, no further editorial change or addition has occurred.

Section II

Question 16 (a)

Answers could include:

- Evacuation Procedure
 - Fire
 - Bomb threat
 - Emergency situations
- Location of exits, fire extinguishes etc
- Understanding of the appropriate authorities
- Venue specific information
- Hazard identification
- Enterprise/organisation policy and procedures
- Identifying the first aid/safety officers
- Relevant location information
 - Name of venue
 - Nearest cross street
 - Nearest public transport

Sample answer:

- General OHS and emergency evacuation procedures
- Where to seek first aid treatment in case of an emergency
- Security procedures
- Emergency contact numbers

Question 16 (b)

Answers could include:

- Ensure all equipment is tested and tagged and fire rated
- Complete a Risk Assessment
- Induct and train the touring crew
- Review bump in/out procedures for the venue
- Use a MSDS
- Ensure adequate access for touring vehicles
- Ensure adequate working lights and ventilation

Sample answer:

The stage manager's OHS responsibilities are

- Complete a risk assessment of the onstage and backstage areas – isolate any hazards
- To take steps to prevent/reduce slip and trip hazards
- Ensure staging staff are adequately trained for their particular role
- Provide staff with adequate rest and meal breaks to avoid fatigue

Question 17***Answers could include:***

Environments other than a theatrical production including:

- Film
- TV and radio
- Music
- Fashion
- Sport
- Tourism
- Retail
- Corporate functions

Vision systems discussion may include reference to:

- Specific pieces of vision system equipment including data projectors, screens, monitors, computers, switchers, cameras
- Relevant/appropriate reference to audio systems

Sample answer:

Corporate functions can use data projectors for PowerPoint presentations from a computer; live video feeds from a camera in the room and pre-recorded vision packages. The vision system can be operated from a central console which also manages the sound and lighting requirements, and contains a monitor and switcher. The use of the vision systems provides visual reinforcement of the speakers' words, thus enhancing delegates' engagement in the presentations.

Question 18

Sample Answer could include:

- NSW Ministry for the Arts
- The Australia Council for the Arts
- The Australian Network for the Arts and Technology
- Live Performance Australia (AEIA)
- MEAA
- APRA
- Local, State and Federal governments

There are a number of key industry bodies that support the arts in Australia. Some of these bodies provide funding for new and existing projects, support new artists and promote the arts. Other key industry bodies assist with contract negotiations, copyright clearance and working conditions.

The MEAA is the union and professional organisation which covers everyone in the media, entertainment, sports and arts industries. They provide information regarding rates of pay, contracts and commissions. It develops awards for workers and ensures a high standard of workplace safety.

Question 19 (a)***Answers could include:***

- Outline the elements of the communication cycle
 - Sender
 - Receiver
 - Message
 - Feedback
- Identifies the Role of the FOH and Stage Manager in this situation
- Importance of
 - Active listening
 - Open/closed/reflective questioning
 - Courteous language
 - Friendly tone
 - Appropriate language
 - Clear voice
 - Audible volume

Sample answer:

The communication cycle of sender, message, receiver and feedback could be used to clearly and concisely relay the details of the unfolding incident. It is important to use courteous and appropriate language with a clear audible voice. The FOH manager would need to relay information in a timely manner to the audience to keep them updated on the progress. The FOH manager's role is to communicate with the audience whilst the Stage Manager's responsibility is solving the technical issues and updating the FOH manager when appropriate.

Question 19 (b)***Answers could include:***

- An understanding of working within an hierarchy
- Methods of communication in a group or team
- System checks
- Two-way communication
- Problem solving techniques
- Backup systems
- SM keeping the various technical departments informed (and cast)
- As a last resort – communicating with external customers (electrician)
- Contact the hirer/venue manager for a new desk

Sample answer

Stage Manager would instruct the technical crew to undertake a systems check involving the following:

- Check power source is functioning and turned on
- Check associated leads are patched correctly (and plugged in correctly) to the desk
- Replace any faulty cabling
- Check multicore is patched correctly to the desk
- Check the individual channels are correctly positioned
- Engage back-up system if necessary
- Replace system if necessary

Question 20 (a)***Answers could include:***

- Lighting schedule – list of lantern and accessories
- Colour call sheet – list of gels being used
- Lighting plan – the position of lights in the rig
- Focus sheet – summary of the position of the lights
- Cue sheet – list of lighting cues
- Prompt copy – contains all cues including lighting cues

Sample answers:

The Lighting Plan would be used to indicate the location of each lantern in a venue, patch number, type of lantern.

Question 20 (b)***Answers could include:***

- Types of equipment
 - Profiles
 - Fresnels
 - Par cans
 - Cyc lights
 - Automated lights
 - Strobes
- Accessories
 - Gels and holders
 - Barn doors
 - Donuts and top hats
 - Relevant cables
- Dimmers
- Patch board
- Desk

Include concepts like back lighting, creating atmosphere, use of colour mixing and intensity, use of focus and shadow, specials etc.

Sample answer:

I would create a dim general wash of the set to indicate night-time using parcans and fresnels with barn doors to control the wash. Blue gels could be used to indicate night. Gobos could be used to create a dappled effect over the stage giving the suggestion of moonlight through the trees. From behind the set wall but shining through the window could be a focused profile and a gobo to indicate moon light, with the cyc lit by a blue wash. The fire could be created by red and orange gels from floor lamps using flash buttons to create a flickering effect. The character would be backlit by a profile spot hung on an upstage lighting bar at a 45 degree angle with an amber gel to create a sense of warmth.

Section III

Question 21

Sample answer/Answers could include:

Pre-production

- Contact made with the various ensembles to determine specific cultural needs
- Production needs ascertained and circulated appropriately
- Production schedule drawn up
- Crew numbers and duties clarified
- Risk assessment undertaken with cultural groups
- Initial discussion of technical issues with staging
- Ensure dressing room areas are allocated sensitively with an awareness of the cultural needs of the various groups
- Lead crew briefing on the cultural needs of the various ensembles

Production

- Run the induction for the various cultural groups
- Assign rehearsal/holding/dressing area
- Supervise sound check and tech/dress rehearsal if appropriate
- Plan and manage the backstage movement of a large number of performers
- Ensure that any props and instruments are stored safely back stage and the movement of this equipment is done in a safe manner
- Ensure that communication is clear and culturally sensitive

Question 22

Sample answers could include:

Organising tasks in terms of:

- Time Management – including prioritizing, time management, accommodating changes to routine, time frames.
- Planning and organising work routines on a daily, weekly or monthly basis; use of diaries, scheduling
- Task Management – negotiating delegating, consultation problem - solving, decision making, goal setting.

Specific reference to the competing needs of the various technical departments:

- Bump in/bump out schedule
- Allocation of appropriate time and breaks
- Ensuring staging elements are in place before audio and lighting
- Understanding the needs of each specific department
- Venue requirements
- Technical rehearsal, dress rehearsal
- Allocate adequate time for light plotting and sound checking

Question 23

Answers could include:

- Follow appropriate evacuation policies/procedures
- Taking initiative
- Effective communication of the safe movement and assembly of patrons and staff
- Contact relevant authorities
- Records of numbers in the venue and head count in assembly area
- Completion of relevant document and safety audits
- Relevant methods of communication with staff
- Reference to first aid. What information needs to be given to the emergency services?
- Dealing with the aftermath of customers – is the show to be rescheduled etc
- Use of active listening in dealing with the complaint
- Offer assurances
- Record details of complaints where necessary