

IDTA

THEATRE DANCE EXAMINATION SYLLABUS

BALLET

Pre-Associate, Associate, Licentiate and Fellowship

Level 3 Diploma Dance Teaching Assistant information

Level 4 Diploma Dance Teacher information

The IDTA wishes to thank the Quality Assurance Panel and Faculties for their work on the revision and production of the examination syllabi and technique books.

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IDTA PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION INFORMATION

BALLET

Associate, Licentiate and Fellowship examinations are qualifying professional teaching examinations, which are entered individually.

Associate: Candidates aged 18-21 years inc, must have passed an Intermediate examination with a recognised dance examining body in the relevant core subject and have successfully passed IDTA Pre-Associate examinations OR have completed a minimum of 2 years at a full time vocational college OR hold a university dance diploma or degree.

Candidates over 21 years of age must have successfully passed IDTA Pre-Associate examinations OR have completed a minimum of 2 years at a full time vocational college OR hold a university dance diploma or degree OR provide evidence of professional dance contracts for a minimum of 2 years.

Candidates taking their first Theatre Branch Associate examination will be required to provide evidence that they hold an Anatomy Diploma, either from the IDTA or another recognised dance organisation or similar body.

The Associate examination is available for candidates outside the UK.

UK, Level 4 Diploma candidates must refer to the Associate for Unit 2.

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate their ability to teach, discuss faults and make corrections.

Examination time: 1 hour 35 minutes.
Minimum age: 18 years.

Licentiate: Candidates are required to have a minimum of two years teaching experience. Candidates will be required to have a thorough knowledge of the, Intermediate, Associate, Advanced 1 and Licentiate syllabi. Candidates will be expected to demonstrate their ability to teach, discuss faults and make corrections.

Examination time: 1 hour 45 minutes
Minimum age: 20 years.

Fellowship: Candidates will be required to have held the Licentiate Ballet certificate for a minimum of one year prior to the examination. Candidates will be required to have a thorough knowledge of all previous work plus the additional Fellowship technical requirements including the Advanced 2 syllabus. Candidates will be expected to show experience in all aspects of teaching and choreography.

Examination time: 1 hour 45 minutes + 15 minutes discussion time.

Modular Examinations: Candidates may take professional examinations using the Modular format. Candidates will be required to comply with the above requirements. Please read carefully the syllabus requirements and examination content of each module.

Candidates will be required to take and pass module 1, before taking further modules, which must be taken in order. Up to two additional modules may be taken together. Candidates will be advised of the result of each module. The overall result (based on an average mark for all the modules) will be notified to the candidate with the final module. Only on the successful completion of the final module will the candidate be awarded a professional qualification in the branch concerned.

CONDITIONS AND INFORMATION

Examination wear:

Female - Smart suitable teaching wear, ballet shoes or suitable teaching shoes.

Male - Smart suitable teaching wear, ballet shoes or suitable teaching shoes.

Music: Official IDTA music CDs and personal musical resources for free work.

Demonstrator: A demonstrator of appropriate standard must be provided for pointe work.

Candidates will be expected to work without reference to a syllabus.

Candidates over 30 years of age may use a demonstrator for any section of the syllabus at the appropriate standard. Demonstrators for candidates under 30 years of age may be considered for pre-arranged routines. Candidates who are pregnant at the time of the examination are recommended to use a demonstrator and undertake the examination at their own risk. Any concerns should be raised with a medical practitioner.

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IDTA THEATRE BRANCH MODULAR EXAMINATION INFORMATION

The IDTA Theatre Branch core subjects of Ballet, Tap, Modern Jazz and Theatre Craft are available at all levels, Level 4 Diploma, Associate, Licentiate and Fellowship in a modular format.

The Board of Directors wishes to encourage more members to continue with their own professional development and to make the professional examinations more accessible to everyone.

Each genre and level consists of four modules.

In each case module one must be taken and passed before the candidate can proceed.

Subsequent modules must be taken and passed in order. Up to two modules may be taken on the same day.

All modules will be 45 minutes, with the exception of Ballet Module 4 “Practical Teaching and Pointework” which will be 60 minutes.

Please see the Level 4 Diploma in Dance Teaching Candidate Handbook for details of the Unit 2 modular option.

Candidates will be informed after taking each module if they have been successful or not and will receive a report for each module.

Although the Examiner will allocate marks for each module the mark will not be divulged to the candidate until he/she has completed the final module in each chosen subject, when the candidate will receive an overall mark which will be the average mark over the number of modules.

For example	Module 1	88
	Module 2	92
	Module 3	82
	Module 4	85

The average mark will be 86.75 and will be rounded up to the next whole number so the average mark will be 87.

Professional examinations at all levels can still be taken in their entirety as normal; the Modular system is an option. It is more expensive to take the Modular system route and potentially a candidate will have up to four different Examiners for each professional examination.

It is recommended that all four modules are completed within a two year period

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IDTA LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA - DANCE TEACHING ASSISTANT

This qualification has replaced the Pre-Associate examination for Ballet, Tap, Contemporary Modern Jazz and Theatre Craft for candidates in the UK. It is optional for candidates outside the UK. The qualification is also available for Ballroom, Latin, Classical Sequence and Freestyle candidates.

The objective of the Level 3 Diploma in Dance Teaching Assistant is for learners to develop knowledge and understanding of syllabus requirements, safe dance practice and dance teaching so that they may assist in dance classes, usually helping to teach groups of students for a specified period under the supervision of a qualified dance teacher. The qualification does not confirm status as a dance teacher.

Please watch and listen to the PowerPoint presentation which introduces the new IDTA Level 3 Diploma Dance Teaching Assistant.

<https://www.idta.co.uk/members-hub/qualifications/idta-level-3-diploma-for-dance-teaching-assistants/>

Please read the Candidate Handbook which provides helpful information about the qualification including information about the registration and examination process, guidance on completing the workbook and observation logs and what to expect in the examination.

The word document templates for the workbook and teaching observation logs can be downloaded. Please see the Candidate Handbook and example documents for more information.

Examination fees for the new Level 3 Diploma can be found on the current fees list and can be obtained from Head Office or downloaded from the secure Members' Area of the website.

If you have any questions please email Liz Murphy or Rachael Meech at IDTA Head Office via our [Contact Form](#) and state in the subject line "Level 3 Diploma".

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IDTA PRE ASSOCIATE

(International Students only)

The Pre-Associate examination is designed for candidates who wish to assist their teacher in dance classes. The Pre-Associate examination is not a professional teaching qualification and does not entitle the holder to enter candidates for IDTA examinations.

The Pre-Associate examination is one of the pre-requisites for the IDTA Associate teaching examination, available to candidates based outside the UK.

Candidates: Candidates must be 16 years of age and over and if under 21 years of age must have successfully taken the Intermediate qualification.

Dress: Suitable teaching attire and footwear.

Music: Official IDTA music to be used for set work, supplemented by other appropriate music where required.

Examination time: 1 candidate 1½ hours

Candidate is required to:

1. On the day of the examination provide to the Examiner with a portfolio including relevant information.
2. Have a complete knowledge of their 3 chosen grades (one from each section below) including the required variations, dances, enchaînements;
 - a) Preparatory or Primary or Grade 1
 - b) Grade 2 or Grade 3
 - c) Grade 4 or Grade 5Teachers should advise the examiner in advance of the examination of which grades will be chosen.
3. Demonstrate and show an ability to count and instruct rhythmically as requested by the Examiner.
4. To discuss observed common faults and corrections.
5. Create enchaînements in their chosen grades.
6. Discuss the requirements for Dance Awards (formerly medal tests) up to and including Gold.
7. Choreograph and present 1 Dance Award (formerly medal test) dance, to their own choice of music for either Bronze, Silver or Gold.
8. Demonstrate efficiency in personally editing, organising and operating recorded music.

The Pre-Associate examination is an option for candidates outside the UK.

Theatre Branch candidates in the UK must follow the IDTA Level 3 Diploma Dance Teaching Assistant syllabus.

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IDTA LEVEL 4 DIPLOMA IN DANCE TEACHING

For candidates in the UK IDTA Level 4 Diploma in Dance Teaching for Ballet, Tap, Contemporary Modern Jazz and Theatre Craft is the first level of dance teaching qualification.

For candidates based outside the UK, the IDTA offers the Associate or the Level 4 Diploma in Dance Teaching in Ballet, Tap, Contemporary Modern Jazz and Theatre Craft. Candidates may select either examination.

The IDTA Level 4 Diploma in Dance Teaching qualification is based on the IDTA Associate syllabi and technique but is arranged in three units;

Unit 1 Safe Dance Practice (portfolio based section)

Unit 2 Technique and Syllabus knowledge (existing Associate technique and syllabus knowledge)

Unit 3 Dance Teaching Practice. (existing Theatre Branch Associate dance teaching practice, plus a case study, lesson plan and CPD information).

The objective of the Level 4 Diploma in Dance Teaching is for learners to:

- Gain a knowledge and understanding of safe dance practice
- Demonstrate skills, knowledge and understanding of their chosen dance genre
- Demonstrate teaching practice

The qualification provides a basis for candidates to progress into dance teaching, either through running their own dance school or working as a teacher in a private dance school

Please watch the presentation of the new IDTA Level 4 Diploma in Dance Teaching and refer to the Candidate Handbook and the Unit 1 and Unit 3 example documentation. The presentation and Candidate Handbook will provide lots of helpful information about the qualification including information about the registration and examination process, guidance on completing and submitting your portfolio and what to expect in the examination.

There are word document templates which can be downloaded, two for Unit 1 and one for Unit 3. Please see the Candidate Handbook and example documents for more information.

Examination fees for the Level 4 Diploma can be found on the current fees list which can be obtained from Head Office or downloaded from the secure Members' Area of the website.

Details of the IDTA Level 4 Diploma in Dance Teaching can be found on the IDTA website.

www.idta.co.uk/members-hub/qualifications/idta-level-4-diploma-in-dance-teaching

If you have any questions please email Liz Murphy or Rachael Meech at IDTA Head Office, email: info@idta.co.uk and state in the subject line "Level 4 Diploma".

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IDTA BALLET ASSOCIATE SYLLABUS

(International Students only and reference for Level 4 Diploma Unit 2)

SYLLABUS REQUIREMENTS - EXAMINATION CONTENT

The candidate is required to:

1. Have a thorough knowledge of the Intermediate Performers' syllabus and be prepared to demonstrate, discuss or break down any of the work requested.
2. Present to the Examiner a portfolio containing suitable teaching notes and relevant documentation. Candidates must not include previous examination reports, results or certificates.
3. Discuss common faults and corrections with reference to relevant anatomy and physical development.
4. Show an understanding of note values, tempo and time signatures and be able to operate recorded music with proficiency. Additional music resources should be used to encourage musical interpretation and style throughout the syllabus.
5. Show their ability to teach, develop and choreograph enchaînements and variations up to and including Intermediate Performers level and discuss the basic essentials for dance arrangements.

Technical sections are taken from the Ballet Intermediate Performers syllabus.

SECTION 1 - TIME ALLOWED 5 MINUTES

Teaching Notes

A portfolio, hand written or by computer, will be handed to the Examiner five minutes prior to the commencement of the examination. The portfolio may be referred to by the Examiner or the candidate during the examination.

The portfolio should contain: -

1. Details of syllabus requirements with emphasis on progression and common faults.
2. Clear notes on correct posture and technique with relevant reference to basic anatomy and standard Health and Safety practice in approaching the teaching of Dance.
3. A detailed description of the choreography of the two contrasting Variations with information regarding the musical structure.

SECTION 2 - TIME ALLOWED 40 MINUTES

Syllabus Analysis

Candidates will be expected to:

1. Demonstrate and discuss any of the set work from the Intermediate Performers' Syllabus as requested.
2. Analyse any of the syllabus content with an awareness of progression and correction of common faults.
3. Show an understanding of the musical requirements and their application in practical teaching.

SECTION 3 - TIME ALLOWED 30 MINUTES

Practical Teaching

Candidate should provide 2 – 4 students of mixed ability at Grade 2 standard or above and conduct a non-syllabus class. The students may be from the candidate's own school or another school. The Examiner will give guidance as to the structure of the class on the day of the examination. Details and an explanation of the students' standard **must** be sent to the Examiner prior to the examination. Candidates will need to make sure that they bring appropriate music to the examination. Class appraisal when the students have vacated the room.

Examiners will ask the candidate to teach a class including three elements;

Candidates to provide a selection of music.

1. Warm up appropriate for the dance genre.
2. One or two technical elements relating to the chosen genre and level/grade of the pupils in the class.
3. Choreography / Musicality.

The examiner may ask the candidate to set an enchaînement or amalgamation or the first 8 bars (approximately) of a medal dance.

OR

The examiner may ask the candidate for one of the technical elements, from item 2 above, to be included in the enchaînement.

OR

The examiner may ask the candidate for teaching ideas to develop musicality

If an applicant cannot fulfil the criteria for the Practical Teaching Section (number of candidates) individual circumstances will be reviewed in advance, the applicant should write to Head Office.

SECTION 4 - TIME ALLOWED 10 MINUTES

Pointe Work (Demonstrator is compulsory for this section)

Candidates will be required to give examples and discuss the following:

1. Preparatory exercises and practical teaching methods to varied time signatures.
2. Correction of common faults and awareness of safe practice.

SECTION 5 - TIME ALLOWED 10 MINUTES

Choreography and musical application

Candidates will be required to:

1. Arrange suitable alternative exercises and enchaînements up to Intermediate level as requested.
2. Perform or provide a demonstrator to perform 2 pre-arranged contrasting Variations of Intermediate standard
 - A. A, B or C from the Intermediate Performers CD
 - B. To music of their own choice (1 minute).
3. Discuss choices of music and content used for the enchaînements and variations above.

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IDTA BALLET ASSOCIATE MODULE SYLLABUS

SYLLABI REQUIREMENTS - EXAMINATION CONTENT

The candidate is required to:

1. Have a thorough knowledge of the Intermediate Performers' syllabus and be prepared to demonstrate, discuss or break down any of the work requested.
2. Present to the Examiner a portfolio containing suitable teaching notes and relevant documentation for each module. Candidates must not include previous examination reports, results or certificates.
3. Discuss common faults and corrections with reference to relevant anatomy and physical development.
4. Show an understanding of note values, tempo and time signatures and be able to operate recorded music with proficiency. Additional music resources should be used to encourage musical interpretation and style throughout the syllabus.
5. Show their ability to teach, develop and choreograph enchaînements and variations up to and including Intermediate Performers level and discuss the basic essentials for dance arrangements.

Technical sections are taken from the Ballet Intermediate Performers syllabus.

MODULE 1

45 MINUTES

Barre
Demi Pointe
Centre Practice

MODULE 2

45 MINUTES

Adage
Pirouettes

MODULE 3

45 MINUTES

Allegro
Batterie
Choreography and Variations (Section 5 Associate syllabus)

MODULE 4

60 MINUTES

Pointe work
Practical Teaching (Section 3 Associate syllabus)

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IDTA BALLET LICENTIATE SYLLABUS

SYLLABUS REQUIREMENTS - EXAMINATION CONTENT

The candidate is required to:

1. Have a thorough knowledge of the Performer syllabus up to and including Advanced 1 and Licentiate and be prepared to demonstrate, discuss or break down any of the work requested. Alternative exercises will be requested.
2. Present to the Examiner a portfolio containing suitable teaching notes and relevant documentation. Candidates must not include previous examination reports, results or certificates.
3. Discuss common faults and corrections with reference to relevant anatomy and physical development.
4. Show a complete knowledge and understanding of phrasing and musical structure and have the ability to guide students in its application to choreography. Prepare and operate recorded music with proficiency and provide music suitable for all ages and ability from which to select.
5. Show their ability to teach, develop and choreograph enchaînements and variations up to and including Advanced 1 level.

Technical sections will be taken from the Ballet Advanced 1 Performers syllabus

SECTION 1 - TIME ALLOWED 5 MINUTES

Teaching Notes

A portfolio, hand written or by computer, will be handed to the Examiner five minutes prior to the commencement of the examination. The portfolio may be referred to by the Examiner or the candidate during the examination.

The portfolio should contain: -

1. Details of syllabus requirements with references to training techniques.
2. Relevant anatomical notes. These notes should refer to correct technique and Health, Safety and safe practice in the studio in approaching the teaching of dance.
3. A detailed script of the choreography of the two contrasting Variations with information regarding the musical structure.

SECTION 2 - TIME ALLOWED 40 MINUTES

Syllabus analysis

Candidates will be expected to –

1. Demonstrate and discuss any of the set work from the Intermediate and Advanced 1 Performers' Syllabi as requested.
2. Show build-ups relevant to set exercises from the syllabus at all levels.
3. Break down exercises at any levels for training purposes.
4. Discuss a basic knowledge of joints, composition of muscles and functions in relation to classical technique. Medical terms are not necessarily required but a clear understanding of the actions involved is paramount.
5. Discuss postural faults and their correction.
6. Discuss warm up, strengthening and stretching exercises for physical development.

SECTION 3 TIME ALLOWED 40 MINUTES

Practical Teaching

1. Candidates will provide 2-4 students of mixed ability at grade 5 level or above and conduct a non syllabus class. The students may be from their own or another school. The Examiner will give guidance as to the structure of the class on the day of the examination. Details of the students standard must be sent to the Examiner prior to the exam.
2. Class appraisal when the students have vacated the room.

SECTION 4 -TIME ALLOWED 10 MINUTES

Pointe Work (Demonstrator is compulsory for this section)

Candidates will be required to give examples and discuss the following:

1. Preparatory exercises and practical teaching methods to varied time signatures.
2. Correction of common faults and awareness of safe practice.
3. Simple enchaînements in various styles.

NB. Due to Health and Safety Practice some areas of the above may be pursued through discussion only or adapted according to the demonstrators ability.

SECTION 5 - TIME ALLOWED 10 MINUTES

Choreography and Musical Application

Candidates will be required to:

1. Arrange enchaînements of adage, demi pointe, allegro and pointe work.
2. Provide choices of music and time signatures relevant to the development of dynamics and spatial awareness.
3. Perform or provide a demonstrator to perform 2 pre-arranged contrasting Variations of Advanced 1 standard to music of their own choice (1 minute).
4. Discuss choices of music and content used for the enchaînements and variations above.
5. Révérence to the set music.

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IDTA BALLET LICENTIATE MODULE SYLLABUS

SYLLABUS REQUIREMENTS - EXAMINATION CONTENT

The candidate is required to:

1. Have a thorough knowledge of the Performer syllabus up to and including Advanced 1 and Licentiate and be prepared to demonstrate, discuss or break down any of the work requested.
2. Present to the Examiner a portfolio containing suitable teaching notes and relevant documentation for each module. Candidates must not include previous examination reports, results or certificates.
3. Discuss common faults and corrections with reference to relevant anatomy and physical development.
4. Show a complete knowledge and understanding of phrasing and musical structure and have the ability to guide students in its application to choreography They should prepare and operate recorded music with proficiency and provide music suitable for all ages and ability from which to select.
5. Show their ability to teach, develop and choreograph enchaînements and variations up to and including Advanced 1 level.

Technical sections are taken from the Ballet Advanced 1 Performers syllabus. A portfolio to be submitted with each module

MODULE 1

45 MINUTES

Barre
Centre Practice

MODULE 2

45 MINUTES

Ports de bras and Adage
Pirouettes

MODULE 3

45 MINUTES

Petit Allegro
Allegro
Batterie
Enchaînements

MODULE 4

60 MINUTES

Pointe work
Variations
Practical Teaching (Section 3 Licentiate syllabus)

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IDTA BALLET FELLOWSHIP SYLLABUS

SYLLABUS REQUIREMENTS - EXAMINATION CONTENT

The candidate is required to:

1. Have a thorough knowledge of the Performers syllabus up to and including Advanced 2 and Fellowship and be prepared to demonstrate and analyse any of the work. Alternative exercises will be requested.
2. Present to the Examiner an updated portfolio containing brief details of the candidate's career since Licentiate and choreography and musical structure of the chosen variations. Candidates must not include previous examination reports, results or certificates.
3. Have knowledge of the skeletal structure, muscle functions and physical development to a more advanced level with reference to the relevant anatomy.
4. Have a comprehensive understanding of phrasing and musical structure and have the ability to guide students and teachers in its application to choreography, class work and improvisation at a professional level. Provide music suitable for all ages and abilities and operate recorded music with proficiency.
5. Show experience in all aspects of teaching and choreography.

Technical sections will be taken from the Ballet Advanced 2 Performers syllabus.

SECTION 1 - TIME ALLOWED 5 MINUTES

Teaching Notes

A portfolio will be handed to the Examiner five minutes prior to the commencement of the examination. The portfolio may be referred to by the Examiner or the candidate during the examination.

The portfolio should contain:

1. Details of syllabus requirements with the emphasis on training exercises and common faults.
2. Clear notes on correct posture and technique with references to basic anatomy and standard Health, Safety and safe practice in the studio in approaching the teaching of dance and physical development.
3. A detailed script of the choreography and musical structure of the chosen variations.

SECTION 2 - TIME ALLOWED 40 MINUTES

Syllabus Analysis

Candidates are required to:

1. Have a thorough knowledge of the Advanced 2 Performers' Syllabus.
2. Be prepared to analyse and illustrate technical and creative teaching methods.
3. Display choreographic skills.
4. Show ability to create alternative and advancements of the set work.

SECTION 3 - TIME ALLOWED 30 MINUTES

Practical Teaching

1. Candidates will provide 2-4 students of mixed ability at Intermediate level or above and conduct a non syllabus class. The students may be from their own or another school. The Examiner will give guidance as to the structure of the class on the day of the examination. Details of the students standard must be sent to the Examiner prior to the exam.
2. Class appraisal when the students have vacated the room.

SECTION 4 - TIME ALLOWED 10 MINUTES

Pointe Work (Demonstrator is compulsory for this section)

Candidates will be required to teach any aspect of pointe work up to and including Advanced 2 level.

NB. Due to Health and Safety Practice some areas of the above may be pursued through discussion only or adapted according to the demonstrator's ability.

SECTION 5 - TIME ALLOWED 20 MINUTES

Choreography and Musical Application

Candidates will be required to discuss and perform or provide a demonstrator to present:

1. Appreciation of time signatures, musical structures and composers.
2. Creative enchaînements of Advanced 2 standard as requested using varied musical structures.
3. Two pre-arranged variations of an advanced standard. The first to one of the set pieces of music, the second to music of the candidates choice.
4. Révérence to the set music.

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IDTA BALLET FELLOWSHIP MODULE SYLLABUS

SYLLABI REQUIREMENTS - EXAMINATION CONTENT

The candidate is required to:

1. Have a thorough knowledge of the Performers syllabus up to and including Advanced 2 and Fellowship and be prepared to demonstrate and analyse any of the work.
2. Present to the Examiner an updated portfolio containing brief details of the candidate's career since Licentiate and choreography and musical structure of the chosen variations, for each module. Candidates must not include previous examination reports, results or certificates.
3. Have knowledge of the skeletal structure, muscle functions and physical development to a more advanced level with reference to the relevant anatomy.
4. Have a comprehensive understanding of phrasing and musical structure and have the ability to guide students and teachers in its application to choreography, class work and improvisation at a professional level. Provide music suitable for all ages and abilities and operate recorded music with proficiency.
5. Show experience in all aspects of teaching and choreography.

Technical sections are taken from the Ballet Advanced 2 Performers syllabus. A portfolio to be submitted with each module

MODULE 1

45 MINUTES

Barre
Centre Practice

MODULE 2

45 MINUTES

Ports de bras and Adage
Pirouettes

MODULE 3

45 MINUTES

Allegro
Batterie
Enchaînements

MODULE 4

60 MINUTES

Pointework
Variations
Practical Teaching (Section 3 Fellowship syllabus)

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