



## Mark Scheme

Criterion	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark
Accuracy	Whole movement ridden accurately	Nearly accurate	Not very accurate
Aids	Horse responding to invisible aids	Aids visible but light	Aids too strong, or too much movement when rider applies aids, or incorrect aids given.
Canter-trot transition	Canter to trot is smooth and balanced, and shows no resistance.	Smooth transition, but slight resistance, hollowing, or a little unbalanced.	Transition is abrupt or horse is tense, resisting or very unbalanced through transition.
Contact	Contact consistent, light and even, horse's jaw relaxed	Contact light but sometimes a little inconsistent or uneven, or horse showing some resistance in jaw	Hands pulling back or moving, or horse resisting contact.
Half Pass	Horse moves with correct and consistent bend, in consistent direction, showing no resistance.	Movement mostly correct with a little crookedness or resistance, or some irregularity in bend or direction.	Movement incorrect, or horse showing resistance.
Halt-trot transition	Halt to trot transition is forward and smooth, showing no tension or resistance, and no steps of walk.	Smooth transition but some steps of walk shown, or slight resistance.	Showing significant resistance or tension.
Halt-walk transition	Horse responds instantly to invisible aids and walks straight forward, showing no resistance	Horse responds to light aids but shows some resistance or slight crookedness, or aids slightly too strong.	Horse tense, resisting or crooked, or aids too strong.
Leg-yield	Horse moves smoothly and consistently forward and sideways with body parallel to track at all times	Movement mostly correct, with occasional crookedness or resistance.	Horse leads with shoulder, is not parallel to long side, or does not showing sufficient steps of correct leg-yield, or shows resistance.
Position	Rider is balanced and maintains correct posture.	Some minor faults in position, but the rider is not hindering the horse's movement.	Faults in rider position are hindering the horse's movement, or preventing the correct application of aids.
Rein-back	Smooth, straight and unhurried, with no resistance.	Correct movement but some hurrying, resistance or crookedness.	Movement not correct, or horse showing resistance.
Relaxation of horse	Horse relaxed throughout movement	Horse relaxed for most of movement	Horse showing significant signs of tension
Rhythm and tempo	Horse moving freely in a consistent rhythm at a natural tempo	Rhythm good but tempo may be a little rushed, or horse not moving freely forwards.	Rhythm is inconsistent or tempo is very rushed.
Rising trot-walk transition	Trot to walk is smooth and balanced, and shows no resistance. Rider sits for no more than one stride before walking.	Rider sits for more than one stride before walking, but has slowed down the trot before sitting, and is not blocking the movement.	Rider sits too early, so loses synchronisation or bounces, or hovers, putting too much weight in the stirrups, or horse shows resistance in transition.
Shoulder-in	Horse moving smoothly and consistently on 3 tracks with no resistance.	Slightly too much or too little bend or angle, or slightly inconsistent, or some slight resistance.	Movement incorrect, or horse showing resistance.
Straightness of rider	Rider appears straight when viewed from in front or behind.	Some minor crookedness which does not appear to affect the horse's way of going	Rider collapsing or leaning, affecting the horse's straightness.
Stretching down	Horse stretches neck forward and down without snatching	Horse stretches forward and down slightly.	Horse snatches or hollows, or does not show stretching forward and down.
Synchronisation	Horse and rider move together, so rider appears to sit still, and they are a pleasure to watch.	Generally well synchronised, but horse is not always listening to the rider, or rider sometimes moves a little against the horse.	Rider uses overly strong aids or moves body against the horse's movement, blocks the movement, or pushes with seat, or horse does not respond to aids.
Trot diagonal	Rider sets off on the correct diagonal without looking down, and remains on this diagonal.	Rider sets off on the wrong diagonal but corrects this, or looks down obviously to check diagonal.	Rider rides on incorrect diagonal and does not change, or changes onto incorrect diagonal.
Trot-canter transition	Horse strikes off smoothly on correct lead, with no running.	Horse strikes off on correct lead with some rushing, or good transition but incorrect lead.	Horse runs into the transition, shows excessive tension, or does not strike off into a correct canter.
Trot-halt transition	Trot to halt is smooth and balanced, and shows no resistance. No steps of walk.	Smooth transition but some steps of walk shown, or direct transition but with slight resistance, hollowing or crookedness.	Transition is abrupt or horse is tense or resisting through transition.
Trot-walk transition	Trot to walk is smooth and balanced, and shows no resistance.	Smooth transition, but slight resistance, hollowing or crookedness.	Transition is abrupt or horse is tense or resisting through transition.
Turn on the haunches	Smooth and rhythmical, forehand moves around haunches.	Mostly correct, but slight resistance, slightly erratic rhythm or some incorrect steps.	Movement mostly incorrect or showing resistance.
Walk - halt transition	Walk to halt smooth and balanced, and shows no resistance.	Smooth transition, but some slight crookedness or slight fidgeting	Transition is abrupt or horse is tense or resisting through transition. or tense and fidgety during immobility, or immobility not shown.
Walk-canter transition	Horse strikes off smoothly on correct lead, with no trot steps.	Horse strikes off on correct lead with some trot steps, or good transition but incorrect lead.	Horse runs into the transition, shows excessive tension, or does not strike off into a correct canter.
Walk-trot transition	Transition is clean and smooth from invisible aids, showing no resistance.	Smooth transition, but some rushed walk steps, or slight resistance.	Horse not responding to light aids, shows resistance or tension.