

ACTION ASSIGNMENTS

K-8 with teacher oversight and coaching
High School & Adult – independent work



Instead of using drums, percussive dancers use their bodies instead! These dances can be performed with no musical accompaniment, but can also be done with live or recorded music by drummers, singers and musicians. Some percussive dancers also use everyday objects in unusual ways to make sound such as the performers in *Stomp!*

Tap Dancing is a well-known example of percussive dance, but percussive dance occurs across the world in many different dance traditions and genres such as:

Irish Step Dancing
American Hambone
Clogging
Kathak
Odissi
Flamenco

Zapateado
Step Dance (African American)
Podorythmie
Keplok
... and many more!

ASSIGNMENT #1: Research one of the above dance forms and develop a presentation or write a short paper about it. Your research should include at least three (3) sources and may include an interview or practice session with someone who does one of these dances. Your paper or presentation must include the cultural and historical contexts of the dance.

ASSIGNMENT #2: Select 3 of the Action words in the Elements of Dance graphic organizer to use in a dance phrase you will choreograph. You will also pick a 4th choice, which can be any dance step or movement of your own choice. For example, you might choose “twist, float, jump” from the graphic organizer and decide to use a triplet turn as your 4th choice. You can use any style of dance for this assignment. Here’s the game plan:

- Use both axial and locomotor movements in your dance phrase.
- Be inventive, but use only these 4 movements in the dance phrase.
- The phrase should be at least 15 seconds long with a clear beginning and ending -
 - so you will have to:
- Repeat at least some movements or create variations.
- The phrase can be performed in silence or with music, so be prepared to explain your choice.

Use this above checklist to guide your work.