WHAT IS DANCE?

DANCE IS THE MAKING OF RHYTHMICAL STEPS AND MOVEMENTS FOR THEIR OWN SAKE.

DANCE HAS BEEN PRESENT IN JUST ABOUT EVERY KNOWN HUMAN SOCIETY.

A. DANCE IN ART
B. RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE
C. COMMUNAL ACTIVITIES
D. COURTSHIP
E. HEALING
F. EDUCATION
G. WAR
H. PHYSICAL TRAINING
TRADITION VERSUS CREATIVITY

TRADITION IS IN

A. THE REPERTORY
B. TECHNICAL TRAINING OF PERFORMERS
C. CREATIVE THEORY
D. SOCIAL LIFE OF DANCERS
E. WAYS OF EARNING A LIVING

WESTERN THEATRE DANCE SEARCHES FOR FRESH IDEAS
WESTERN VERSUS NON-WESTERN DANCE

NON-WESTERN DANCE FORMS ARE RELATED TO

A. RELIGIOUS RITUALS
B. CEREMONY
C. COMMUNAL ACTIVITY

WESTERN THEATRE DANCE FEATURES

A. PROFESSIONAL DANCERS
B. CHOREOGRAPHERS
C. DIRECTORS
D. COMPANIES
TRIBAL RITES

1. SPECIFIC RITUAL- HAS A ONE TIME PURPOSE
   A. CURE A SICK PERSON
   B. CAST OUT EVIL SPIRIT
   C. MOURN DEATH
   D. BURIAL

2. CYCLICAL RITUAL- REPEATED AT THE SAME TIME EACH YEAR
   A. CYCLE OF SEASON
   B. FERTILITY OF SOIL, HUMANS, ANIMALS
   C. ABUNDANCE OR ABSENCE OF RAIN
DEVISE RITUALS TO APPEASE THE GODS

A. CEREMONIES TO DEMONSTRATE THE DESIRED OUTCOME OF FERTILITY AND GROWTH

B. MAGIC SPELLS TO FORCE THE SPIRITS TO PERFORM PROPERLY

C. SACRIFICIAL GIFT TO BUY THEIR FAVOR
TYPES OF RITUALS

INITIATION RITUALS
AT THE AGE OF PUBERTY. CIRCUMCISION

RITUAL OF THE HUNT AND ANIMALS
ANIMAL DANCE SERVES AS A HUNTING CHARM - DANCER WINS POWER OVER THE ANIMAL HE IMITATES

HEALING AND FUNERAL RITUALS
WITCH DOCTORS, PRIESTS, SHAMANS CONDUCT MAGIC HEALING RITES.

WAR AND WEAPON RITUALS
WEAPON DANCE WIDESPREAD. - SPEARS, SWORDS
HOPI SNAKE DANCERS. WALPI, AZ 1903
POLYNESIAN DANCER
EGUNGUN ANIMAL MASQUERADE, IMASI, NIGERIA, 1978
YEMEN BARCA DANCE
RITUAL ELEMENTS IN DANCE

I. SOUNDS
   A. DRUMMING
   B. CHANTING
   C. SINGING

II. BODY DECORATIONS
   A. MASKS
   B. FEATHERED GRASS COSTUMES
   C. STONES AND SHELLS
   D. PAINTED MAKEUP

III. SETTING
   A. WOODS
   B. CAVE
   C. HUT

IV. FIRE
   A. USED FOR SACRIFICE
   B. A FOCAL POINT TO DANCE AROUND
   C. CARRY IN THE FORM OF TORCHES
ASANTE DRUMMERS, 1890
CURT SACHS
THE WORLD HISTORY OF THE DANCE

I. HARMONIOUS DANCES
   A. REPETITIVE
   B. HYPNOTIC
   C. SIMPLE PATTERNS
      1. SHUFFLING
      2. STAMPING
      3. HOPPING
      4. LUNGING
      5. RELAXED SPINE

II. ECSTATIC DANCES
   A. BUILDS TO GREAT HEIGHTS
   B. PHYSICALLY WITH HIGH LEAPS AND JUMPS
   C. EMOTIONALLY WITH EXCITEMENT
      1. WHIRLING
      2. SHAKING OR TREMBLING
      3. HEAD ROLLS AND SPINS
      4. LEG AND ARMS THRUST INTO THE AIR WITH SPEED
      5. MUSCLES QUIVER AND BODY PARTS THROW WILDLY
   D. CLIMAX IS TRANCE STATE
      1. POSSESSED BY SPIRIT
      2. UNCONSCIOUS
      3. UNTouched BY PAIN OR SEVERE ELEMENTS LIKE FIRE
      4. SOMETIMES AIDED BY DRUGS AND LIQUOR
BALI TRANCE DANCERS
VODUN WORSHIPER, HAITI
DIVISION OF TRIBAL DANCES

A. MIMETIC

1. MOVEMENTS PORTRAY AN IMAGE
2. ANIMAL DANCES ARE MIMETIC

B. IMAGELESS

1. MOVEMENTS ARE RHYTHMIC AND GENERALIZED
2. POWER FROM RHYTHMIC REPETITION AND NOT THE GESTURES

PERFORMERS OF TRIBAL DANCE

A. ALL TAKE PART TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY
B. LIMITED TO PRIEST OR DANCE SPECIALISTS
C. LIMITED BY GENDER
GENDER ROLES IN TRIBAL DANCE

A. MEN DO DANCES OF WAR AND HUNT

B. WOMEN DO DANCES OF PLANTING, HEALING, AND THE DEAD

WOMEN’S DANCES ARE GENERALLY MORE TONED DOWN.

MALE AND FEMALE HAVE EQUAL DANCE STATUS WHEN SEXUAL RITUALS ARE PERFORMED