

Unit Structure

Unit 4: Stage 4 Senior Ride for Training Eventing

*Where the assessment method states 'Trainer endorsement', the criteria is required to be signed off prior to the assessment day. On the assessment day the candidate will be assessed in detail on one or more assessment criteria through a 'viva' process with the assessor to clarify competence.

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Guidance on the breadth of content that may be covered during assessment.	Assessment Method
1. Understand the training of young horses	1.1 Explain a range of methods of training horses from birth to riding away	Range = 3 or more Methods to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning theory • Appropriate introduction of equipment and tack • Leading in hand • Lungeing • Long reining • Initial backing process • Using assistance • Field and stable care • In hand showing • Young horse evaluations • Travelling 	Trainer endorsement*
	1.2 Explain the training of young horses	May include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directional control • Moving forward • Transitions • Responding to the leg and rein aids • Rhythm • Bend/straightness • Hacking out • Variation of training • Rest periods and down time 	Trainer endorsement*
	1.3 Explain the Training Scale	Training Scale: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhythm • Suppleness/relaxation • Contact • Impulsion • Straightness • Collection 	Trainer endorsement*
2. Be able to ride safely	2.1 Maintain health, safety and welfare of horse, self and others	To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ride with consideration for other users of the school space • Consideration of individual horses 	Observation
3. Understand how to progress the training of a dressage horse	3.1 Describe the requirements of dressage tests from Intro to Elementary	Requirements to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content at each level • Progression route • Variations in tack and equipment • Different competition opportunities 	Trainer endorsement*
	3.2 Analyse the effect of a range of school movements on a dressage horse's performance	Range = 2 or more School movements to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn about/on the forehand • Leg yield • Shoulder fore/in 	Trainer endorsement*

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pirouettes in walk • Counter canter 	
	3.3 Explain potential problems in the horse's way of going and methods to overcome them	Potential problems to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregular paces • Loss of balance, rhythm • Acceptance of contact • Stiffness on either rein Methods to overcome to include consideration of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choice of work • Choice of exercises 	Trainer endorsement*
	3.4 Describe variations within the pace	Variations to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The four variations within each pace 	Trainer endorsement*
	3.5 Analyse the effect of transitions on a dressage horse's performance	Effect of transitions to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the half halt • Transitions between paces • Transitions within the pace • Direct transitions for example, walk to canter 	Trainer endorsement*
	3.6 Plan a work schedule for a dressage horse	Work schedule to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short (one month) and medium term (six months) • Fitness work for dressage horses • Cantering outside 	Trainer endorsement*
4. Understand how to progress the training of a show jumping horse	4.1 Describe the requirements of different show jumping categories/levels	Requirements to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content at each level (types of jumps, height and distances) • Progression route • Variations in tack and equipment • Different competition opportunities 	Trainer endorsement*
	4.2 Outline a training programme for introducing a horse to jumping	Training programme to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand relevance of the Training Scale • Use of poles; individual, trot, canter, placing • Introduce a fence following the pole exercise • Ability to ride on all surfaces including grass 	Trainer endorsement*
	4.3 Explain potential problems and suggest methods to overcome them	Potential problems may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregular paces • Loss of balance, rhythm • Inappropriate speed • Lack of adjustability between obstacles • Poor quality of turns and approach to fences 	Trainer endorsement*
	4.4 Evaluate the value of grid work	May include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the horse's jumping skills • Improving straightness • Regulating length of stride • Building confidence • Improving technique 	Trainer endorsement*
	4.5 Plan a training schedule to progress a	Training schedule to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pole exercises 	Trainer endorsement*

	horse to show jumping 1.10m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grid exercises • Introduction of canter poles • Further improvement of the horse's way of going on the flat • Referenced to the Training Scale 	
	4.6 Explain factors that influence the distances between fences	Factors to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trot and canter approaches • Dealing with different length of stride • Reasons and needs for shorter and variable schooling distances • Competition rules • Terrain, for example, grass/surface, uphill/downhill, distance to/from a corner, going • Knowledge of jump distances 	Trainer endorsement*
Ride a trained horse in a double bridle			
5. Be able to ride a trained horse in a double bridle to develop its way of going	5.1 Ride in an influential balanced position	Influential balanced position to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing a secure balanced position whilst maintaining integrity of the aids • Riding forwards to a receiving rein aid with rhythm, bend and straightness within a working frame appropriate to the horse's level of training • Demonstrate empathy and feel 	Observation
	5.2 Evaluate the horse's way of going in line with the Training Scale	Evaluation with reference to the training scale. Way of going to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pace • Balance • Gymnastic ability • Attitude/rideability • Technique 	Observation and discussion
	5.3 Use exercises to develop the horse	Exercises may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dressage movements to Elementary level • Transitions within paces • Direct transitions • Lateral work 	Observation
	5.4 Evaluate the effectiveness of the exercises carried out	To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasoning for the selection of the work • Effectiveness of the work 	Observation and discussion
	5.5 Justify a plan of work to develop the horse's training	Plan to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future possible work; short term (one month) and medium term (six months) • Use of alternative work programmes which may include lungeing, hacking and outside work • Progression towards Medium level work 	Discussion
Ride an inexperienced horse			
6. Be able to ride an	6.1 Ride in an influential	Influential balanced position to	Observation

inexperienced dressage horse with a view to developing its way of going	balanced position	include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Showing a secure balanced position whilst maintaining integrity of the aids Riding forwards to a receiving rein aid with rhythm, bend and straightness within a working frame appropriate to the horse's level of training Demonstrate empathy and feel 	
	6.2 Evaluate the horse's way of going in line with the Training Scale	Evaluation with reference to the Training Scale Way of going to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pace Balance Attitude/rideability Technique 	Observation and discussion
	6.3 Use exercises to develop the horse's responsiveness to the aids	Exercises may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transitions School figures Lateral work Lengthening and shortening stride Making reference to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppleness Impulsion Straightness 	Observation
	6.4 Evaluate the effectiveness of the exercises	To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasoning for the selection of the work Effectiveness of the work 	Observation and discussion
	6.5 Justify a plan of work to develop the horse's training	Plan to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future possible work; short term (one month), medium term (six months) Use of alternative work programmes which may include lungeing, hacking and outside work Alternative venues 	Discussion
Ride a trained horse over show jumps			
7. Be able to ride an experienced horse over show jumps up to 1.10m (3ft 7ins) with a view to developing its way of going	7.1 Evaluate the horse in preparation for show jumping	A progressive assessment of the horse may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess horse in all paces Change pace between fences Responsiveness to aids The ability to influence the canter Horse's balance through turns and corners Jumping skill, identify horse's strengths/weaknesses Jumping from trot and canter Use of a placing pole Relating fences 	Observation and discussion
	7.2 Ride the horse over a range of fences	To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relate fences to show understanding of training and the process for jumping a course Show influence, control and 	Observation

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> confidence Show a balanced, secure and influential position that has a positive effect 	
	7.3 Evaluate the work undertaken	<p>To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paces, forwardness, attitude Softer/stiffer side Ease of movement Quality of jump Stronger and weaker movements Response to the aids Reference to the Training Scale 	Observation and discussion
	7.4 Justify a plan of work to develop the horse's training	<p>Plan to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future possible work; short term (one month) and medium term (six months) Use of grids and gymnastic exercises to improve the horse's technique Use of alternative work programmes which may include lungeing, hacking and outside work Flatwork exercises Progression towards jumping 1.15m 	Discussion

Ride a horse over cross country fences

<p>8. Be able to ride a horse cross country over fences up to 1m (3ft 3ins) with a view to developing its way of going</p>	8.1 Evaluate the horse in preparation for cross country	<p>Evaluation to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The horse's way of going in all paces Change of pace between fences The horse's responsiveness to the aids Ability to influence the canter Horse's balance through turns and corners Horse's jumping skill (strengths/weaknesses) Moving the horse faster 	Observation and discussion
	8.2 Ride the horse over a range of cross country fences	<p>To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A progressive assessment Jump independent fences Relate fences to show understanding of training and the process for jumping a course Show influence, control and confidence Show a balanced, secure and influential position that has a positive effect <p>Range to include at least 3 of the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angles Corners, skinnies, arrowheads Ditch Steps, drops Water 	Observation
	8.3 Evaluate the work undertaken	<p>Evaluation to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paces, forwardness, attitude Rhythm, bend, straightness, outline Softer/stiffer side 	Observation and discussion

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ease of movement • Quality of jump • Response to the aids • Reference to Training Scale 	
	8.4 Justify a plan of work to develop the horse's training and confidence	Plan to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future possible work, short term (one month), medium term (six months) • Use of grids and gymnastic exercises to improve the horse's technique • Use of alternative work programmes which may include lungeing, hacking and outside work • Flatwork exercises • Progression to Novice Horse Trials (to include introducing different types of cross country fences used in this level of competition) 	Discussion
9. Be able to ride horses used for training others, with a view to developing their way of going	NOT APPLICABLE FOR THIS UNIT		
10. Be able to ride an inexperienced horse over show jumps up to 1m (3ft 3ins) with a view to developing its way of going	NOT APPLICABLE FOR THIS UNIT		