

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## Modern Dance: History Notes

**Directions:** Answer each question in complete sentences using your own words. Only partial credit will be given if incomplete sentences are used. You may NOT work together; you may NOT write on the information packet; and you may NOT take it home. Please read the questions carefully as they are not necessarily in order of the packet. Use the back of the pages where necessary but please make sure you label your answers clearly.

1. In what country and what time period did Modern Dance originate?
2. Who was the first classical ballerina to break out of the “classical ballet” mold?
3. Who is (are) credited with being the pioneer(s) of modern dance?
4. Three words are used to describe modern dance, what are they?
5. Who is credited with saying that the purpose of modern dance is to communicate experiences, intuitive perceptions and elusive truths?
6. Contrast the differences in relation to the lead and corps dancers in a classical ballet piece versus a modern piece.
7. Describe what Isadora Duncan’s performance style was (clothing, type of movement, expressions, music, etc.)



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15. Humphrey studied movement for quite some time; what was it that she enjoyed studying specifically?

16. Describe the historical cycle of modern dance.

17. How does modern dance in the 1920's and 1930's differ from modern dance of today?

18. How has ballet and modern dance come together in recent years?

19. There are said to be 3 different "types" of modern dancers; what are they?

20. Describe Graham's "life cycle" through her dance career.

21. Cunningham's choreography is described in a particular way that indicates how the movements flow together; what is this description?

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22. Whose choreography relates closest to classical ballet?

23. Who is noted for dance theater turning toward the abstract?

24. What is the name of the piece choreographed by Nikolais that used dancers incased in stretch fabric?

25. Describe how critics have described Nikolais's work.

26. In what decade was the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater established?

27. What award is Ailey most noted for receiving?

28. What impact has Ailey's company had on the world?

Describe the similarities and differences between modern and ballet (using knowledge gained from having watched a bit of Ailey earlier in the week).