

External Assessment 2025

DRAMA

SDD315120

Pages: 8

Questions: 6

Answer Booklets: 2

Preparation time for this exam: 15 minutes

Suggested working time: 2 hours

Instructions:

- There are **two (2)** sections to this exam paper.
- You must answer **one (1)** question from **each section** in **essay** form:
 - **Section A** – answer **one (1)** question
 - **Section B** – answer **one (1)** question.
- Write your answers for each section in a **separate answer booklet** and write the question number you are answering on the front cover of each answer booklet.
- The exam is **two (2) hours** in length. The suggested working time for each section is **approximately 60 minutes**.
- All answers must be written in **English**.
- You **must** make sure your answers address the listed criteria.

Guide to Exam Structure

		Questions available	Questions to answer	Suggested working time	Marks available
Section	A	3	1	60 minutes	All criteria are assessed using extended ratings of A+ to z
Section	B	3	1	60 minutes	
Totals		6	2	120 minutes (2 hours)	

Criteria

You **must** make sure your answers address:

- Criterion 7 appraise personal drama skills
- Criterion 8 appraise dramatic performances.

Section A

- Answer **one (1)** question in this section in a **separate answer booklet**.
 - Your answer should refer to the critical appraisal of at least **two (2) live** theatre productions you have seen this year.
 - You may make reference to only **one (1)** school or college production in your response.
 - The suggested working time for this section is **approximately 60 minutes**.
 - This section assesses **Criterion 8**.
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Question 1

With reference to **two (2) live** theatre productions you have seen this year, discuss how **two (2)** of the following technical elements were used to convey the key themes or ideas of the performance to the audience:

- lighting
- sound/music and/or AV
- costuming
- the use of the acting stage/set.

OR

Question 2

A director's choices help to shape a theatrical production to effectively engage the audience. With reference to **two (2) live** theatre productions you have seen this year, choose **two (2)** of the following elements and discuss how they helped engage the audience in the performance:

- acting
- directorial and/or staging decisions
- technical production elements.

OR

Question 3

An actor uses their voice and body to create character. With reference to **two (2) live** theatre productions you have seen this year, select **one (1)** actor from each production and discuss how each actor used their vocal and physical skills to portray their character to the audience.

Section B

- Answer **one (1)** question in this section in a **separate answer booklet**.
 - Your answer should refer to the **Scripted Drama, Children’s Theatre, Devised or Documentary Theatre** that was your **major** public performance this year.
 - The suggested working time for this section is **approximately 60 minutes**.
 - This section assesses **Criterion 7**.
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Question 4

Identify the key themes or ideas in your major production this year and explain, using examples, how **three (3)** of the following technical production elements were used to convey these themes or ideas to the audience:

- lighting
- props, set and staging
- costuming and/or make-up
- music/sound and/or AV.

OR

Question 5

Actors use their voice and body to create character and contribute to the performance of the story. With reference to your major production this year, discuss the ways in which **three (3)** of the following contributed to the portrayal of your character(s):

- your background research about the production
- your use of voice and body on stage
- the costume or costume items you wore
- the genre or style of your production.

OR

Question 6

An ensemble performance requires actors to employ a range of stagecraft skills. With reference to your major production this year, discuss the ways in which your use of **three (3)** of the following contributed to your ensemble:

- listening and eye contact
- audience awareness
- dramatic timing
- spatial awareness.

End of Exam

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