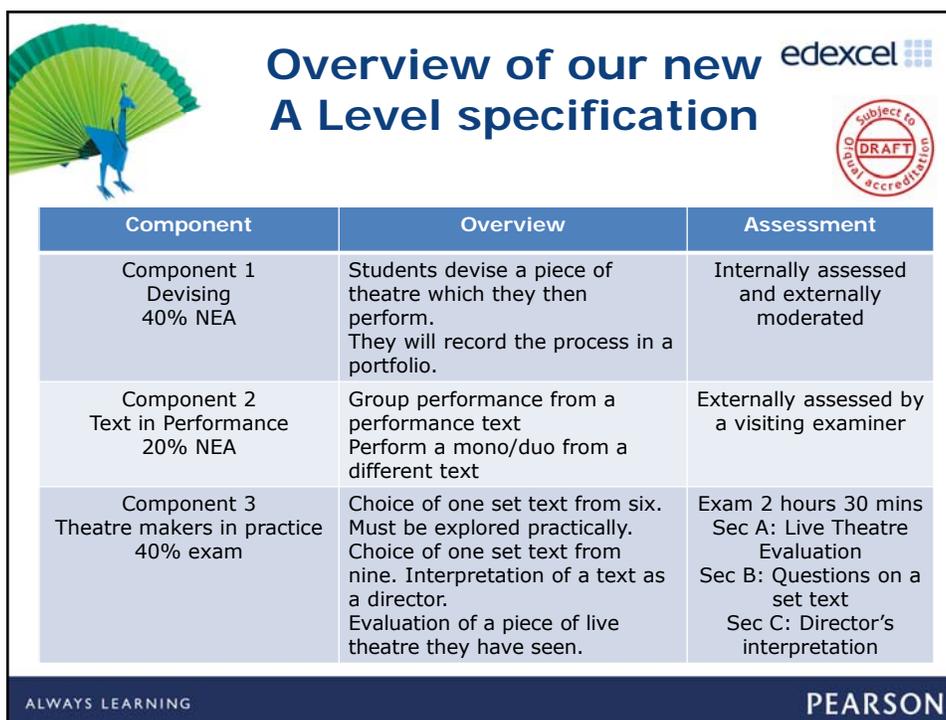


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AS and A level 2016 Drama and Theatre

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Overview of our new A Level specification

Subject to external accreditation
DRAFT

Component	Overview	Assessment
Component 1 Devising 40% NEA	Students devise a piece of theatre which they then perform. They will record the process in a portfolio.	Internally assessed and externally moderated
Component 2 Text in Performance 20% NEA	Group performance from a performance text Perform a mono/duo from a different text	Externally assessed by a visiting examiner
Component 3 Theatre makers in practice 40% exam	Choice of one set text from six. Must be explored practically. Choice of one set text from nine. Interpretation of a text as a director. Evaluation of a piece of live theatre they have seen.	Exam 2 hours 30 mins Sec A: Live Theatre Evaluation Sec B: Questions on a set text Sec C: Director's interpretation

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Component 1: Devising Overview

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- Students will explore an extract in light of a practitioner. The choice of text and practitioner is free for you to select.
- They will then work in a group to create and develop ideas to devise a piece of Drama from an aspect of what they have explored
- Students can perform in a group sized from 3-6 performers. The group can also include up to one designer from each design role. The design roles are set, lighting, sound and costume.
- Students will respond to statements in the specification to analyse and evaluate their creative decisions as they go through the devising process and their final performance. The portfolio can be written, audio-visually recorded or a combination of both, it can also include annotated photos, sketches and notes.
- The performance and portfolio will be assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.

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Component 2: Text in Performance Overview

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- Students will perform for or design in a group performance from a performance text
- The group size will be 3-6. The group can also include up to one designer from each design role. The design roles are set, lighting, sound and costume
- Students will also perform in or design for a monologue or duologue performance from another performance text
- The performance texts for this component will be a free choice for the centre.
- This component will be externally assessed by a visiting examiner.
- The group performance has more weight than the mono/duo.

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Component 3: Theatre Makers Overview

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- This is an externally set and assessed examination
- First assessment: May/June 2018
- The exam is 2 hours 30 mins
- The exam will be made up of three sections:
 - Section A: A choice of one of two statements requiring students to evaluate a live theatre performance
 - Section B: Students will practically explore a set text in order to be able to answer two extended response questions on an extract from it (they will be provided with the extract in the exam)
 - Section C: Students will interpret a performance text for a contemporary audience

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Component 3 Set texts

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- For Section B of the exam, students will need to practically explore one of the below set texts and then answer questions on how they would perform in and design for an extract from it.

Set text choices

- Accidental Death of an Anarchist, Dario Fo
- Miss Julie, August Strindberg
- Equus, Peter Shaffer
- Machinal, Sophie Treadwell
- That Face, Polly Stenham
- Colder than Here, Laura Wade

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Component 3 Set texts



- For Section C of the exam, students will be interpreting a text for a contemporary audience, in light of a practitioner, from a director's perspective.

Set text choices

- Antigone, Sophocles/Don Taylor
- Doctor Faustus, Christopher Marlowe
- Hedda Gabler, Henrik Ibsen/Richard Eyre
- Lysistrata, Aristophanes (translated by Alan H. Sommerstein)
- The Maids, Jean Genet
- The School for Scandal, Richard Brinsley Sheridan
- The Tempest, William Shakespeare
- Waiting for Godot, Samuel Beckett
- Woyzeck, Georg Büchner (translated by John Mackendrick)

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Component 3 Practitioners



- For Section C of the exam, students will be interpreting a text for a contemporary audience, in light of a practitioner, from a director's perspective.

Practitioner choices

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antonin Artaud Steven Berkoff Joan Littlewood Bertolt Brecht 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constantin Stanislavski Kneehigh Complicite Punchdrunk
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Component 3 Source booklet



- The exam will include a source booklet and a question paper.
- Students will be able to take notes in for Section A.
- For Section B, students will be given the extract to focus on in the exam.
- For Section C, students can take in clean versions of the performance text they have studied.
- The mark schemes will be detailed and include indicative content.

- There will be a second set of sample assessment materials provided for A level Drama and Theatre.
- We will also provide exemplar answers as part of our support package.

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Overview of our new AS specification



Component	Overview	Assessment
Component 1 Exploration and Performance 60% NEA	1. Explore a performance text in light of a practitioner and record this in a portfolio Perform an extract from this text 2. Perform a mono/duo from a different text	Internally assessed and externally moderated
Component 2 Theatre Makers in Practice 40% exam	Choice of one set text from six. Must be explored practically. Evaluation of a piece of live theatre they have seen.	Exam 1 hour 45 mins Sec A: Live Theatre Evaluations Sec B: Questions on a set text

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Component 1: Exploration and Performance Overview



There are two sections to this component

Section 1:

- Students will explore a performance text in light of a practitioner. The choice of text and practitioner is free for you to select. Students will perform part of this text
- Students can perform in a group sized from 3-6 performers. The group can also include up to one designer from each design role. The design roles are set, lighting, sound and costume
- Students must also complete a portfolio detailing their exploration.

Section 2:

- Students can either
 - perform or design for a monologue or duologue from a performance text of their choice.

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Component 1: Exploration and Performance Assessment



Section 1:

- Students will respond to statements in the specification to analyse and evaluate their decisions as they explored the text and produced their final performance. The portfolio can be written, audio-visually recorded or a combination of both, it can also include annotated photos, sketches and notes.
- The performance and portfolio will be assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.

Section 2:

- This performance and the portfolio will be assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.

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Component 2: Theatre Makers in Practice Overview



- This is an externally set and assessed examination
- First assessment: May/June 2017
- The exam is 1 hour 45 minutes
- The exam will be made up of two sections:
 - Section A: Students will practically explore the set text in order to be able to answer two extended response questions on an extract from the text. They will be provided with the extract in the exam
 - Section B: A choice of two questions evaluating a piece of live theatre they have seen.
- This component is worth 40% of the qualification.

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Component 2 Set texts



- This is the same list of texts that students will study for Section B of the A level exam. Students will need to practically explore one of the below set texts and then answer questions on how they would perform in and design for an extract from it.

Set text choices

- Accidental Death of an Anarchist, Dario Fo
- Miss Julie, August Strindberg
- Equus, Peter Shaffer
- Machinal, Sophie Treadwell
- That Face, Polly Stenham
- Colder than Here, Laura Wade

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AS and A level Co-teachability

We have designed the AS and A level qualifications, so they can be co-taught:

- There will be two set text lists for the A Level exam, one of those lists is the same as for the AS exam.
- Students can perform the same piece of work at AS and A level.
- Work submitted for AS and A level will be marked to the different AS and A level standards
- Any skills developed in the AS year will be built upon in the 2nd year of the A Level.

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Co-teachability Example 1



TERM 1 A level Comp 1 AS Comp 1	TERM 2 A level Comp 2 AS Comp 1	TERM 3 A level Comp 3 AS Comp 2
AS and A together: - Practically explore key extract from text and practitioner - Complete portfolio	AS and A together: Perform a mono/duo from a different text	AS and A together: - Practical exploration of AS set text - Watch live theatre
AS students: Rehearse and perform extract	AS students: Internally assessed	AS students: Complete exam
A students: Devise new work using extract as starting point	A students: Group performance from a performance text (externally assessed - available in 2018)	A students: Sit mock exam

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Co-teachability Example 2

TERM 1 A level Comp 1 and 3 AS Comp 1	TERM 2 A level Comp 1 and 2 AS Comp 1	TERM 3 A level Comp 3 AS Comp 2
AS and A together: - Practical exploration of AS set text	AS and A together: - Complete portfolio based on exploration/devising - Perform a mono/duo from a different text	AS and A together: Watch live theatre
	AS students: Rehearse and perform key extract (int ass)	AS students: Complete exam
AS and A together: - Practically explore key extract from text and practitioner	A students: Devise new work using extract as starting point Group performance from a performance text (externally assessed - available 2018)	A students: Sit mock exam

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Planning and delivery support

- A getting started guide will give an overview of the qualification and help you understand the changes and what they mean for your course and your students.
- An editable course planner and scheme of work.
- Mapping documents to highlight the differences and similarities between this qualification and the legacy qualifications.
- A guide on devising for centres.
- A guide on interpreting a text for performance.

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Understanding the standard edexcel

A comprehensive bank of marked exemplar student work and examiner commentaries to help you understand the standard of the new qualifications.

We will be producing:

- exemplars for the text-based performance component, student performances at a range of ability levels
- exemplars for the written exam

We will be producing for GCSE and A level additionally:

- exemplars for the devising component, including practical work and the portfolio

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Training from Pearson edexcel

Events to help you prepare to teach the new specification:

- More launch events in autumn 2015/spring 2016.
- Getting Ready to Teach events in 2016.
- Teacher marking events from 2017.

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Contact Details

Contact the Drama team:

- Our Drama subject advisor, Paul Webster, will ensure you receive help and guidance when you need it.
- phone: 0844 372 2191
- e-mail: teachingperformingarts@pearson.com
- webpage: www.edexcel.com/alevel drama2016
- Sign up for Drama newsletter to get the latest news.



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