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GCSE 2016 Drama

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Overview of new specification


Subject to DRAFT Original accreditation

Component	Overview	Assessment
Component 1 The Devising Process 40% NEA	Students devise a piece of theatre which they then perform. They will record the process in a portfolio.	Internally assessed Externally moderated
Component 2 Text for Performance 20% NEA	Performance of two extracts from a text	Externally assessed by a visiting examiner
Component 3 Theatre makers in practice 40% exam	Choice of one set text from eight. Must be explored practically. Evaluation of a piece of live theatre they have seen.	Exam: 1 hour 30 min. Sec A: Questions on a set text Sec B: Live Theatre Evaluation


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Component 1 Overview




- Students will work in a group to create and develop ideas to devise a piece of Drama. The choice of stimulus is a free one for centres
- 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 record the creative process that they go through to produce their piece of Drama in a portfolio by answering questions. The portfolio can be written, audio-visually recorded or a combination of both, it can also include annotated photos, sketches and notes.
- This performance and the portfolio will be assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.

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Component 2 Overview




- Students will interpret and explore a performance text, and perform two key extracts from it.
- Centres will have free choice of performance text.
- Students can perform a monologue, or as part of a duologue or group.
- The group can also include up to one designer from each design role. The design roles are set, lighting, sound and costume.
- This component is externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

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Component 3 Overview




- This is an externally set and assessed examination
- First assessment: May/June 2018
- The exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes
- The exam is out of 60 marks
- The paper will include short and extended writing questions
- 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 short and extended response questions. These questions will focus on decisions made as a performer, a director and a designer. An extract from the chosen set text will be provided in the exam paper
 - Section B: Two questions requiring students to evaluate a live theatre performance

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Component 3 Set texts




- We have therefore split our set text list into two, one containing contemporary texts (those published post 2000) and one containing classical texts (those published before 1954).
- Those texts are:


List A	List B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Crucible, Arthur Miller • Government Inspector, adapted by David Harrower • An Inspector Calls, J. B. Priestley • Twelfth Night, William Shakespeare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1984, Robert Icke and Duncan Macmillan • Blue Stockings, Jessica Swale • Dr Korczak's Example, David Greig • DNA, Dennis Kelly
- If a centre chooses a text from list A to study for the exam, they will have to pick a text from after 1954 to perform in component 2.
- If a student picks a text from List B to study for the exam, they will have to pick a text from before 2000 to perform in component 2.

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Component 3 Question paper


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- The exam will include a source booklet and a question paper.
- For Section A, students will be given the extract to focus on in the exam.
- Students will be able to take notes in for Section B, the live theatre evaluation.
- The mark schemes will be detailed and include indicative content.
- There will be a second set of sample assessment materials provided for GCSE Drama.
- We will also provide exemplar answers as part of our support package.

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Planning and delivery support

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- 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




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

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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/aleveldrama2016
- Sign up for Drama newsletter to get the latest news.

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