

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

Exam board: Eduqas

Assessment methods: Theatre Workshop – 20%, Text in Action – 40%, Written Paper – 40%

Length of exams: 2 hours 30 minutes

Breakdown of units:

Component 1 – Theatre Workshop

The students will explore a text such as 'A Doll's House' by Henrik Ibsen and through workshop and devising will create, develop and perform a reinterpretation of an extract of the text. They will also explore different theatre practitioners and their techniques so they can incorporate one of these styles into their chosen extract. The students must complete a realisation of their extract for assessment and a creative log to support the creation of the piece.

Component 2 – Text in Action

The students must create, develop and perform of two pieces of theatre based on a stimulus supplied by the exam board. These pieces are a devised piece using the techniques and working methods of either and second theatre practitioner, and an extract from a text in a contrasting style to the devised piece that is chosen by the teacher and student. The student must realise their performance live for the visiting examiner. Finally, will produce a word-processed evaluation report on their work.

Component 3 – Written Paper

The students complete three sections of the written paper:

Section A: Pre-1956 text - The students study a set text such as 'As You Like It' by William Shakespeare or 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' by Tennessee Williams. They will explore the text from different theatrical perspectives for example as an actor, director and costume designer. They will answer one question on this text worth 40 marks. They may take a clean copy of the play into the exam

Section B: Post-1956 text – The students study a second set text such as 'Saved' by Edward Bond or 'Accidental Death of an Anarchist' by Dario Fo. They will explore the text focusing on their own interpretation and direction of the play. They will answer one question on this text work 40 marks. They may take a clean copy of the play into the exam.

Section C: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time – This a closed book question although the students will be provided with an extract of the play in the exam paper. The students will be required to explore the extract as a performer, director and designer as well as to clearly analyse the influence of live theatre within their response. This question is worth 40 marks.

Overlap with other subjects: Drama has some obvious overlaps with English Literature and Film Studies in regards to deconstructing texts. Creative students also engage well with the syllabus as it is a practical discipline.

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