

# **X037/301**

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NATIONAL  
QUALIFICATIONS  
2007

FRIDAY, 1 JUNE  
1.00 PM – 3.30 PM

DRAMA  
HIGHER

60 marks are allocated to this paper.

Attempt **one** question from Section A, the compulsory question in Section B and **one** question from Section C.



## SECTION A

Marks

### THE STUDY OF A TEXT IN ITS THEATRICAL CONTEXT

Answer **one** question from this section. Your answer should be based on the prescribed text. You should answer from the perspective of a director or an actor in preparation for a performance.

**Your answer to Section A should be written on Pages two to seven of the Answer Book. Additional paper can be obtained from the invigilator.**

1. Explain how and why the playwright uses humour in your prescribed text. As a **director**, explain how you would communicate these elements of humour to the audience. 20
2. Choose a character in your prescribed text whom you would consider brave or cowardly. Give reasons for your choice. As an **actor**, how would you communicate these characteristics in your performance? 20
3. Explain how an important scene in your prescribed text determines the fate of a central character. How, as a **director**, would you highlight the importance of this scene through a range of performance concepts? 20
4. Describe the significant features and uses of language in your prescribed text. As a **director**, explain how you would highlight these features in performance. 20

## SECTION B

### DRAMATIC COMMENTARY

Look at the Answer Book on *Page eight* and find the extract from the play that you have studied. Read it carefully, and then answer both parts of the question below.

You should answer from the perspective of a director in preparation for a production.

Your answer to Question 5(a) should be written on **Pages eight and nine** of the Answer Book. Your answer to Question 5(b) should be written opposite your chosen textual extract.

5. Produce a dramatic commentary on the extract of your prescribed text.
  - (a) Draw a ground plan to show how you would want the extract to be staged. 4
  - (b) Using the text itself and the blank page opposite, indicate your direction to your actors, which should include:
    - moves and interpretative notes for actors 7
    - justification 7
    - any important technical effects. 2

SECTION C

Marks

CONTEMPORARY SCOTTISH THEATRE

Answer **one** question from this Section.

**Your answer to Section C should be written on Pages fifty-eight to sixty-three of the Answer Book. Additional paper can be obtained from the invigilator.**

*SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS DIMENSIONS*

6. To what extent do contemporary Scottish playwrights write about contented people who lead fulfilling lives? You must make reference to **at least two or more** contemporary Scottish plays that you have seen or studied. 20
7. Analyse the portrayal of religious intolerance in **two or more** contemporary Scottish plays that you have seen or studied. 20

*USE OF HISTORY, NOSTALGIA AND POPULAR TRADITION*

8. Describe and analyse the wide range of popular theatre techniques used to engage the interest of a contemporary Scottish audience in **at least two or more** contemporary Scottish plays that you have seen or studied. 20
9. “Contemporary Scottish audiences like their history as long as it is nostalgic history.”  
Discuss this statement with reference to **two or more** contemporary Scottish plays that you have seen or studied. 20

*ISSUES OF GENDER*

10. Describe and analyse the portrayal of domineering and/or submissive women in **two or more** plays you have seen or studied. 20
11. “Contemporary Scottish plays are full of sexual stereotypes.”  
Discuss this statement with reference to **two or more** contemporary Scottish plays that you have seen or studied. 20

*CURRENT PRODUCTIONS AND ISSUES*

12. Describe and analyse **one or more performance(s)** that has been mounted in a site-specific, or in a traditional theatre space. 20
13. To what extent does the contemporary Scottish playwright that you have studied present strong contrasts in his/her work? You must make reference to **two or more** contemporary Scottish plays that you have seen or studied. 20

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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