



Advanced Higher
Coursework
Assessment Task



Advanced Higher Drama

Assignment

Assessment task

This document provides information for teachers and lecturers about the coursework component of this course in terms of the skills, knowledge and understanding that are assessed. It must be read in conjunction with the course specification.

Valid from session 2019–20 and until further notice.

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Introduction

This document contains instructions for teachers and lecturers and instructions for candidates for the Advanced Higher Drama assignment. You must read it in conjunction with the course specification.

This assignment has 20 marks out of a total of 100 marks available for the course assessment.

This is one of three course assessment components. The other components are a performance and a project–dissertation.

Candidates analyse a professional theatrical production, as well as the work of at least one theatre practitioner (actor, director and/or designer) involved in the production and produce an assignment based on a choice of two questions provided by SQA.

Candidates must not use the same theatrical production and/or theatre practitioner that they use in their project–dissertation.

Instructions for teachers and lecturers

Specified resources to be taken into assessment

Candidates may take evidence collected during the research stage into the production of evidence stage, using the Drama resource sheet.

The resource sheet must be submitted to SQA with the evidence produced during the production of evidence stage. If a candidate does not submit a resource sheet, a penalty of 4 marks out of the total of 20 marks is applied.

The resource sheet must not exceed 250 words on a single-side of A4 paper.

The Drama resource sheet helps candidates use their evidence and references, collected during the research stage, to address the question set by SQA.

The resource sheet should contain brief notes or prompts to remind candidates of the points they wish to make in their report, such as summary knowledge points and/or reviews of the production.

The resource sheet should also include references, for example:

- ◆ reviews of the performance
- ◆ academic writings on the chosen practitioner
- ◆ any discourse from the chosen practitioner and/or performance

Sources should include the author, text, date and quotation.

Candidates will gain **no** marks if they copy their assignment, or extended pieces of text or narrative, directly from the resource sheet. However, candidates may copy quotations in full, provided they acknowledge sources.

You can advise candidates on the types of resources that are appropriate for the Drama assignment.

Template

A resource sheet template is available to download separately from the [Advanced Higher Drama subject page](#) under the 'Coursework' tab. It is available either in Word format for electronic completion, or in PDF format to print and complete by hand.

Marking instructions

The marking instructions for the Advanced Higher Drama assignment are in the course specification.

Instructions for candidates

This assessment applies to the assignment for Advanced Higher Drama.

This assignment has 20 marks out of a total of 100 marks available for the course assessment.

SQA issues a choice of two questions for the Advanced Higher Drama assignment. You must select one of these questions to answer for your assignment.

In the assignment, you research, investigate and analyse a professional theatrical production, as well as the work of at least one theatre practitioner involved in the production, chosen from actor, director and/or designer.

You must not use the same theatrical production and/or theatre practitioner that you used in your project–dissertation.

The assignment assesses the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ researching and investigating your chosen question within the context of the performance, using sources of information
- ◆ researching a minimum of one theatre practitioner involved in the production from actor, director and/or designer
- ◆ demonstrating knowledge and understanding of theatre practice and your chosen practitioner in relation to the performance
- ◆ analysing a professional theatrical production in response to your chosen question
- ◆ structuring information and presenting a well-reasoned argument and conclusion, supported by evidence

You will complete your assignment under supervision, within 1 hour and 30 minutes, and in one sitting.

During your research, you complete a Drama resource sheet to help you carry out your assignment.

Your resource sheet must not exceed 250 words on a single-side of A4 paper. It should include brief notes or prompts to remind you of the points you wish to make in your report, such as summary knowledge points and/or reviews of the production. Your resource sheet should also include your references. These may include reviews of the performance, academic writings on your chosen practitioner, or any discourse from the chosen practitioner and/or performance.

You must not copy your assignment or extended pieces of text or narrative directly from your resource sheet. You will not receive any marks if you copy extended pieces of text or narrative from your resource sheet. However, you may copy quotations in full, provided you acknowledge the sources.

You must submit your Drama resource sheet with your assignment to SQA. If you do not submit a resource sheet, you will lose 4 marks. The resource sheet is not marked.

Your teacher or lecturer will let you know how the assessment will be carried out and any required conditions for doing it. Your teacher or lecturer may guide you on the likely availability and accessibility of resources for your chosen question.

The professional theatrical performance must be a live performance, a live-streamed performance or a recorded 'live' theatrical performance, or a historical performance. A historical performance means you can analyse a production of your choice from any time period. The performance must be a play: it must not be a musical, pantomime, ballet or opera.

In this assignment, you have to:

- ◆ **Research and investigate your chosen question within the context of the performance, using sources of information**

This means selecting a question from a choice of two provided by SQA, in relation to a suitable professional theatrical production. Look at all aspects of the question and ask yourself if the performance you want to analyse will meet all these aspects. Find out about the company performing the play and identify the key people within the production, the location of the venue, the staging, the play and the social and/or historical and/or political context of the performance.

- ◆ **Research at least one theatre practitioner involved in the production, and their creative influences**

This means taking at least one practitioner (this can be an actor, director and/or designer involved in the production) and researching their theatre practice in relation to the creation of the performance you have seen. Use your research into your chosen practitioner and demonstrate their theories and/or practice in relation to the performance and your chosen question.

- ◆ **Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of theatre practice and your chosen practitioner in relation to the performance**

This means that you show your initial research on the theatre company/performance you are going to analyse, as well as finding out information about your chosen theatre practitioner. You can record your information on the Drama resource sheet.

- ◆ **Analyse a professional theatrical production in response to your chosen question**

This means that you need to analyse your chosen performance.

- ◆ **Structure information and present a well-reasoned argument and conclusion, supported by evidence**

This means you must present your findings and argument in a way that builds up to an appropriate conclusion based on your research into both the practitioner and the performance. Throughout your assignment, you should refer to all parts of your question.

Administrative information

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History of changes

Version	Description of change	Date

Note: you are advised to check SQA's website to ensure you are using the most up-to-date version of this document.

Security and confidentiality

This document can be used by SQA approved centres for the assessment of National Courses and not for any other purpose.

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