



Advanced Higher
Coursework
Assessment Task



Advanced Higher Drama Performance 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 recording documentation and instructions for candidates for the Advanced Higher Drama performance. You must read it in conjunction with the course specification.

This performance has 50 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 project–dissertation and an assignment.

Recording documentation

The following recording documents are used by SQA visiting assessors to record the marks awarded to candidates.

Each performance role has a specific candidate mark sheet.

In the case of assessment by observation or oral questioning, evidence should include the visiting assessor's comments which show clearly the basis on which assessment judgements have been made.

Advanced Higher Drama: performance

Candidate mark sheet – actors: acting role 1 – interactive

Candidate name:		Class/group:	
Candidate number:		Centre:	
Activity	Marks available	Mark	Comment
Understanding and interpretation Communicates an effective interpretation of the text by demonstrating a clear understanding of character through the use of textual and sub-textual clues	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Portrayal Portrays a credible character that expresses appropriate emotions and conveys complex relationships through detailed interaction with other characters	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Voice Appropriate and effective use of voice	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Movement Appropriate and effective use of movement	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Impact Impact on audience	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		

Signature of visiting assessor:			
Date:		Total mark:	

Advanced Higher Drama: performance

Candidate mark sheet – actors: acting role 2 – monologue

Candidate name:		Class/group:	
Candidate number:		Centre:	
Activity	Marks available	Mark	Comment
Characterisation Communicates and portrays a creative interpretation of a character through the use of textual and sub-textual clues	5		
	4		
	3		
	2		
	1		
	0		
Voice Appropriate and skilled use of voice	5		
	4		
	3		
	2		
	1		
	0		
Movement Appropriate and skilled use of movement	5		
	4		
	3		
	2		
	1		
	0		
Impact Impact on audience	5		
	4		
	3		
	2		
	1		
	0		
Signature of visiting assessor:			
Date:		Total mark:	

Advanced Higher Drama: performance

Candidate mark sheet – director

Candidate name:		Class/group:	
Candidate number:		Centre:	
Activity	Marks available	Mark	Comment
Understanding Sets the extract in the context of the whole play and demonstrates an understanding and interpretation of the text	9-10		
	7-8		
	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Communication Demonstrates the communication of directorial concepts	9-10		
	7-8		
	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Interaction Interacts, engages and responds throughout the process	9-10		
	7-8		
	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Movement Effective use of the acting space in terms of positioning, characterisation, and the visual communication of dramatic meaning	9-10		
	7-8		
	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Voice Effective direction of the textual extract in terms of characterisation, style, tempo, rhythms, dynamics and the delivery of lines	9-10		
	7-8		
	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		

Signature of visiting assessor:			
Date:		Total mark:	

Advanced Higher Drama: performance

Candidate mark sheet – designer

Candidate name:		Class/group:	
Candidate number:		Centre:	
Activity	Marks available	Mark	Comment
Design concept In response to the chosen text produce creative, effective and coherent design concepts in relation to requirements for a production of the play for an audience of today	6		
	5		
	4		
	3		
	2		
	1		
	0		
Scale model set Produces a scale model set for a specified performance space with appropriate reference to textual clues, demonstrating a strong visual impact	9-10		
	7-8		
	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Scale model set Produces a scale model set which takes into account practical considerations of the performance space for which it is designed, for example sightlines, entrances or exits, use of materials, scene changes, weight and/or height restrictions, moving parts of set, technical requirements, viability of set, and space for actors and action	9-10		
	7-8		
	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Scale model set Produces a scale model set which is accurately made and clear in its design	9-10		
	7-8		
	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		

Designer (continued)

Activity	Marks available	Mark	Comment
Additional role 1 Responds to the text to produce creative and effective notes/plotting sheets/plans/designs/cue sheets/drawings in relation to the additional role, selected from lighting, sound, multimedia, props, costume, make-up and hair. These designs should demonstrate coherence with the overall concepts and an awareness of practical considerations.	7		
	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		
Additional role 2 Responds to the text to produce creative and effective notes/plotting sheets/plans/designs/cue sheets/drawings in relation to the second additional role, selected from lighting, sound, multimedia, props, costume, make-up and hair. These designs should demonstrate coherence with the overall concepts and an awareness of practical considerations.	7		
	5-6		
	3-4		
	1-2		
	0		

Signature of visiting assessor:			
Date:		Total mark:	

Marking instructions

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

Instructions for candidates

This assessment applies to the performance for Advanced Higher Drama.

This performance is worth 50 marks. This is 50% of the overall marks for the course assessment.

It assesses the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ applying and demonstrating advanced skills, knowledge and understanding to explore, create and develop a range of concepts for a text-based performance as an actor, director, or designer

Your teacher or lecturer will let you know if there are any specific conditions for doing this assessment.

In this assessment, you have to choose from one of the following options:

Actor

- ◆ prepare for and perform two acting roles – one interactive and one monologue – each from a different play, and to a ‘live’ audience

Director

- ◆ direct a 35 minute rehearsal of a textual extract from your chosen play

Designer

- ◆ demonstrate your overall design concept by creating a scale model set and planning concepts for two additional production roles for your chosen play. Your presentation of these must last approximately 20 minutes

The performance allows you to:

- ◆ creatively explore acting or directing or design concepts within your chosen play(s)
- ◆ respond to themes and issues of your chosen play(s)
- ◆ understand and interpret the historical, social, cultural and/or political context of your chosen play(s)
- ◆ use an advanced range of acting or directing or design skills
- ◆ communicate to an audience

Actors

You will perform two acting roles – one interactive and one monologue – each from a different play.

30 marks are available for the interactive role and 20 marks for the monologue.

Your interactive performance must be approximately 17-20 minutes. Your monologue must be approximately 3 minutes.

You should not read from a script.

In the interactive role, marks are awarded for:

- ◆ communicating an effective interpretation of the text by demonstrating a clear understanding of character through the use of textual and sub-textual clues
- ◆ portraying a credible character that expresses appropriate emotions and conveys complex relationships through detailed interaction with other characters
- ◆ demonstrating an appropriate and effective use of voice
- ◆ demonstrating an appropriate and effective use of movement
- ◆ creating an impact on the audience

A maximum of 6 marks is available in each of the above activities.

In the monologue role, marks are awarded for:

- ◆ communicating and portraying a creative interpretation of a character through the use of textual and sub-textual clues
- ◆ demonstrating an appropriate and skilled use of voice
- ◆ demonstrating an appropriate and skilled use of movement
- ◆ creating an impact on the audience

A maximum of 5 marks is available in each of the above activities.

Directors

You will prepare a substantial extract, for example an act from your chosen play. On the day of the assessment, the visiting assessor selects an extract of approximately three pages for you to direct.

You will direct a rehearsal which must last approximately 35 minutes.

In the director role, marks are awarded for:

- ◆ setting the extract in the context of the whole play and demonstrating an understanding and interpretation of the text
- ◆ demonstrating the communication of directorial concepts
- ◆ interacting, engaging and responding throughout the process

- ◆ effectively directing movement in the acting space in terms of positioning, characterisation and the visual communication of dramatic meaning
- ◆ effectively directing voice in the textual extract in terms of characterisation, style, tempo, rhythms, dynamics and the delivery of lines

A maximum of 10 marks is available in each of the above activities.

Designers

You will produce a set design for a play, which must allow for one significant set change. The design interpretation should be for an audience of today and the set should be related to a specified performance space.

You will make a scale model set for the play. The recommended scale ratio is 1:25.

You will give a presentation of your scale model set and additional production roles, which must last approximately 20 minutes.

In the designer role, marks are awarded for producing:

- ◆ creative, effective and coherent design concepts in relation to requirements for a production of the play for an audience of today, demonstrating a thorough understanding and interpretation of the text in terms of the setting, period, plot, themes and issues, mood and atmosphere and relevant environmental aspects
- ◆ a scale model set for a specified performance space with appropriate reference to textual clues, demonstrating a strong visual impact accuracy which takes into account practical considerations of the performance space for which it is designed, for example:
 - sightlines
 - entrances or exits
 - use of materials
 - scene changes
 - weight and/or height restrictions
 - moving parts of set
 - technical requirements
 - viability of set
 - space for actors and action
- ◆ creative and effective notes/plotting sheets/plans/designs/cue sheets/drawings in relation to two additional production roles selected from lighting, sound, multimedia, props, costume, make-up and hair. Your designs should demonstrate coherence with the overall concepts and an awareness of practical considerations

You must choose two additional production roles from the following:

Lighting

- ◆ Plan lighting concepts for the whole play. These concepts must be coherent with your overall design concept communicated in your scale model set and your other selected production area.
- ◆ Describe a minimum of six lighting concepts. You should describe what you consider to be the key moments or scenes and the lighting states and cues. These could be the opening or ending of acts or key moments within a scene.
- ◆ Produce cue sheets to demonstrate your lighting concepts.

Sound

- ◆ Plan the sound concepts for the whole play. These concepts must be coherent with your overall design concept communicated in your scale model set and your other selected production area.
- ◆ Describe a minimum of six sound concepts. You should describe what you consider to be the key or important moments or scenes, and the sound effects and sound cues. These could be the opening or ending of acts or key moments within a scene.
- ◆ Produce cue sheets to demonstrate your sound concepts.

Multimedia

- ◆ Design media concepts for the whole play. These concepts must be coherent with your overall design concept communicated in your scale model set and your other selected production area.
- ◆ The number of media elements you include will depend on the chosen play.
- ◆ Describe what you consider to be the key moments or scenes and the media effects and cues. These could be the opening or ending of acts or key moments within a scene. Multimedia could include:
 - text
 - audio
 - images
 - projections
 - animations
 - video
 - interactive content
- ◆ Produce media cue sheets to demonstrate your key media concepts.

Props

- ◆ Plan prop concepts for the whole play. These concepts must be coherent with your overall design concept communicated in your scale model set and your other selected production area.
- ◆ The number of props you design depends on how many props are required within your chosen play.
- ◆ Describe what you consider to be the key or important moments or scenes and the use of props. These could be the opening or ending of acts or key moments within a scene.
- ◆ Produce a props list of your key prop concepts.

Costume

- ◆ Design costume concepts for the whole play. These concepts must be coherent with your overall design concept communicated in your scale model set and your other selected production area.
- ◆ Create designs for all major characters, which must include any changes to situations or status. You can use generic designs for minor characters.
- ◆ The number of costumes you design depends on how many characters are in your chosen play.
- ◆ Produce costume lists of your key costume concepts.

Make-up and hair

- ◆ Design the make-up and hair concepts for the whole play. These concepts must be coherent with your overall design concept communicated in your scale model set and your other selected production area.
- ◆ Create designs for all major characters, which must include any changes to situations or status. You can use generic designs for minor characters.
- ◆ The number of designs depends on how many characters are in your chosen play.
- ◆ Produce make-up and hair product lists of your key make-up and hair designs.

6 marks are available for the design concept, 30 marks are available for the scale model set, and 7 marks are available for each additional production role.

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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