

## Planned changes to Higher Drama from session 2018-19

Units and unit assessments will be removed from the Higher Drama course from session 2018-19 onwards. We are strengthening the course assessment to ensure that it continues to assess candidates on the full content of the course, and to maintain the current course value of 24 SCQF credit points.

In deciding the appropriate changes for the Higher course assessment, we consulted with our National Qualification Support Team (NQST), which includes teachers and lecturers.

### Overview of changes to the Higher course assessment

Current course assessment	Revised course assessment
Question paper: 40 marks (40%) Performance: 60 marks (60%)	Question paper: 50 marks (40%)* Performance: 60 marks (60%)

\* Marks will be scaled to give a weighting of 40%

### Changes to the question paper

Current question paper	Revised question paper from 2018-19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 hours</li> <li>• Worth 40 marks (40%)</li> <li>• 2 sections (Section 1 – 20 marks; Section 2 – 20 marks)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 hours 30 minutes</li> <li>• Worth 50 marks (40%)</li> <li>• 3 sections (Section 1 – 20 marks; Section 2 – 10 marks; Section 3 – 20 marks)</li> </ul>

The question paper will be extended by 10 marks and the duration of the exam will increase by 30 minutes to accommodate the additional marks.

- Section 1 – will remain the same
- Section 2 – will require all candidates to answer structured questions from the perspective of two production roles on their selected text (to avoid predictability these roles will vary each year)
- Section 3 – there will now be two Performance Analysis questions and candidates will be required to choose one

### Performance

The 'Preparation for Performance' task and marking instructions will be reviewed and minor amendments may be introduced for next session. Further details will be provided in the course specification at the end of April.

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## **Documents and assessment support materials**

More detail on the requirements for the Higher course assessment will be provided in the revised Higher course specification, which will be published at the end of April 2018. Course support notes will be added to the revised course specification as an appendix by the end of September 2018, to provide additional clarity and guidance.

We will publish a revised specimen question paper to illustrate the requirements of the new question paper from 2018-19. We will also update the coursework assessment task with revised marking instructions. These materials will be published between the end of May and the end of September 2018.

## **More information**

For more information on changes to assessment in National Qualifications, please visit [www.sqa.org.uk/nqchanges](http://www.sqa.org.uk/nqchanges)

If you have any queries regarding the above changes, please e-mail [mycentre@sqa.org.uk](mailto:mycentre@sqa.org.uk)