



National
Qualifications
2017

2017 Drama

Higher

Finalised Marking Instructions

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General marking principles for Higher Drama

This information is provided to help you understand the general principles you must apply when marking candidate responses to questions in this paper. These principles must be read in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidate responses.

- (a) Marks for each candidate response must always be assigned in line with these general marking principles and the detailed marking instructions for this assessment.
- (b) Marking should always be positive, ie marks should be awarded for what is correct and not deducted for errors or omissions
- (c) If a specific candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your Team Leader.
- (d) The questions are designed to allow as broad a range of responses as possible, while at the same time anticipating some of the preferred routes through the Course taken by teachers and candidates. In all cases markers should be looking for responses which offer detailed answers to the questions posed, showing evidence of reading, understanding of, and engagement with, the subject.
- (e) To achieve clarity and consistency across courses and levels, the following command words will be used in the Higher Drama question paper:
describe - provide a statement or structure of characteristics and/or features. This is more than an outline or a list. May refer to for instance a concept, process, situation, experiment or facts.
explain - relate cause and effect and/or make relationships between things clear.
analyse - identify parts, the relationship between them, and their relationships with the whole. Draw out and relate implications.
- (f) The question paper consists of two sections with equal weighting.

Section 1 Textual Analysis

- (a) Section 1 comprises a choice of six questions. There are two questions from the perspective of a **director**, two questions from the perspective of an **actor**, and two questions from the perspective of a **designer**. Candidates must only answer **one** question in this section. Candidates can answer any question from this Section.
- (b) Candidates are required to give an extended response to this question.
- (c) Each question is divided into two parts. Candidates will be required to demonstrate knowledge of a selected text and then go on to demonstrate how they would use either their acting concepts or directing concepts or production concepts to achieve dramatic impact. Markers should allow for two different approaches to this task. Certain candidates will prefer to answer the first part of the question (knowledge of text), point by point, immediately followed by their explanation of their production concepts, point by point. Other candidates will prefer to describe all of their knowledge of text in one go followed by details of all their production concepts in one block. Either is acceptable.
- (d) Both parts of the answer need to be related to each other. If they are not, then the second part of the response cannot be awarded marks.
- (e) Points must relate to the question posed.

- (f) Textual references should include relevant quotes and/or stage directions.
- (g) **One mark** should be awarded for each relevant point of understanding with a textual reference which is used to respond to the question. Up to a **maximum of five marks**.
- (h) **One further mark** should be awarded for each of the above points (g) if the candidates go on to give further detailed development of understanding which is insightful. Up to a **maximum of five marks**.
- (i) In the second part of the answer, **one mark** should be awarded for each relevant production concept. Up to a **maximum of five marks**.
- (j) **One further mark** should be awarded for each production concept if the candidate has given further detailed development of each production concept. Up to a **maximum of five marks**.

Section 2 Performance Analysis

- (a) Section 2 will take the form of a written analysis of a performance that the candidate has seen.
- (b) The play must be different from the selected text in section 1.
- (c) Candidates are required to give an extended response to this question.
- (d) The production may have been performed by any professional or suitable amateur theatre company. If candidates write about an amateur production, the performance must be as much of a rigorous challenge to evaluate compared to a professional production.
- (e) Candidates may write about a theatrical production that has been video recorded. This recording should be of a live theatrical experience and not an adaptation for television. The production **must have taken place in the last two years**.
- (f) Candidates will be asked to select **two** aspects from the following list of performance analysis areas:
 - The choice and use of performance space
 - The director's intentions and effectiveness
 - The acting and development of characters
 - The set
 - Lighting
 - Sound
 - Props
 - Costume
 - Make-up and hair
 - Special effects
 - Media
- (g) Candidates must be prepared to write about the dramatic impact and audience reception for each aspect that is selected.
- (h) The selection of performance aspects will ensure that candidates do not "question spot" and help to discourage prepared answers.
- (i) The selection of performance aspects will allow for the wide range of theatrical experiences that candidates may have seen.

- (j) Points must relate to the question posed.
- (k) **One mark** will be awarded for the explanation of each feature of the performance that achieves dramatic impact and an audience response.
- (l) **One further mark** will be awarded for an explanation that is detailed.

Marking instructions for each question

Section 1 - Textual Analysis

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
1.	<p>This question is in two parts.</p> <p>In the first part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first part of this question, the candidate is required to demonstrate knowledge of their text. He/she is required to describe, in detail, five different events which help develop the plot in the play. • There are ten marks available for this part of the question. Credit should be given for the quality of the descriptions given. • The candidate is required to give an extended response and must use textual references to justify their answer. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant point of understanding which is used to respond to the question. • One further mark should be awarded for each point the candidate makes if the candidate gives further detailed development of understanding. 	20	<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: plot; plot twists; plot structure; themes and issues; dramatic tension; conflict between characters; dramatic irony; particular events/happenings; character motivation; character behaviour; character development; revelations; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
	<p>In the second part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the second part of the question, the candidate must explain, in detail, five directing concepts that would help them to achieve their desired dramatic impact. • There are ten marks available for this part of the essay. • Credit should be given for the quality of the explanations given. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant directing concept. • One further mark should be awarded for each point the candidate makes, showing detailed development of each directing concept. • The candidate must make a connection between their descriptions in the first part of their answer and the explanations in the second part of their answer. 		<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: characterisation; character interaction; relationships between characters; stage proxemics; acting style; voice and movement techniques; use of production skills; actor/audience relationship; special effects; drama media (projections, video footage, soundscapes etc.); setting; stage imagery; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
2.	<p>The question is in two parts.</p> <p>In the first part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first part of this question, the candidate is required to demonstrate knowledge of their text. He/she is required to describe, in detail, five different ways in which their chosen character creates dramatic tension. • There are ten marks available for this part of the question. Credit should be given for the quality of the descriptions given. • The candidate is required to give an extended response and must use textual references to justify their answer. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant point of understanding which is used to respond to the question. • One further mark should be awarded for each point the candidate makes if the candidate gives further detailed development of understanding. 	20	<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: plot twists; themes and issues; dramatic tension; conflict between characters; dramatic irony; particular events/happenings; character motivation; character behaviour; character development; revelations; character interaction; relationships between characters; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
	<p>In the second part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the second part of the question, the candidate must explain, in detail, five directing concepts that would help them to achieve their desired dramatic impact. • There are ten marks available for this part of the essay. Credit should be given for the quality of the explanations given. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant directing concept. • One further mark should be awarded for each point the candidate makes, showing detailed development of each directing concept. • The candidate must make a connection between their descriptions in the first part of their answer and the explanations in the second part of their answer. 		<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: characterisation; character interaction; relationships between characters; stage proxemics; acting style; voice and movement techniques; actor/audience relationship; use of production skills; special effects; drama media (projections, video footage, soundscapes etc.); setting; stage imagery; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
3.	<p>The question is in two parts.</p> <p>In the first part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first part of the question, the candidate is required to describe, in detail, how the chosen character's attitude is influenced by another character or characters, in the drama, demonstrating knowledge of their text. • There are ten marks available for this part of the question. Credit should be given for the quality of the descriptions given. • The candidate is required to give an extended response and must use textual references to justify their answer. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant point of understanding which is used to respond to the question. • One further mark should be awarded for each point the candidate makes if the candidate gives further detailed development of understanding. 	20	<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: dramatic tension; conflict between characters; dramatic irony; particular events/happenings; character motivation; character development; the relationship between the characters; character interaction; plot; themes and issues; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
	<p>In the second part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the second part of the question, the candidate must explain, in detail, the way in which they would use five acting concepts that would help them to achieve their desired dramatic impact. • There are ten marks available for this part of the question. Credit should be given for the quality of the explanations given. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant acting concept. • One further mark should be awarded for each point the candidate makes, showing detailed development of each acting concept. • The candidate must make a connection between their descriptions in the first part of their answer and the explanations in the second part of their answer. 		<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: acting techniques; acting style; stage proxemics; the different ways that the actor uses his/her voice; the different ways that the actor uses his/her movement; themes and issues; the relationship between spoken text and physical movement or gesture; use of props and costume; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
4.	<p>The question is in two parts.</p> <p>In the first part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first part of the question, the candidate is required to describe, in detail, how the chosen character helps to communicate the themes and/or issues of the play, demonstrating knowledge of their text. • There are ten marks available for this part of the question. Credit should be given for the quality of the descriptions given. • The candidate is required to give an extended response and must use textual references to justify their answer. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant point of understanding which is used to respond to the question. • One further mark should be awarded for each point the candidate makes if the candidate gives further detailed development of understanding. 	20	<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: themes and issues; revelations; particular events/happenings; dramatic tension; conflict between characters; dramatic irony; particular events/happenings; character motivation; character development; character behaviour; the relationship between the characters; character interaction; plot; plot twists; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
	<p>In the second part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the second part of the question, the candidate must explain, in detail, the way in which they would use five acting concepts that would help them to achieve their desired dramatic impact. • There are ten marks available for this part of the question. Credit should be given for the quality of the explanations given. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant acting concept. • One further mark should be awarded for each point the candidate makes, showing detailed development of each acting concept. • The candidate must make a connection between their descriptions in the first part of their answer and the explanations in the second part of their answer. 		<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: acting techniques; acting style; stage proxemics; the different ways that the actor uses his/her voice; the different ways that the actor uses his/her movement; themes and issues; the relationship between spoken text and physical movement or gesture; use of props; use of costume; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
5.	<p>This question is in two parts.</p> <p>In the first part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first part of this question, the candidate is required to demonstrate knowledge of their text. He/she is required to describe, in detail, five reasons why the opening scene of their selected text is important. • There are ten marks available for this part of the question. Credit should be given for the quality of the descriptions given. • The candidate is required to give an extended response and must use textual references to help justify their answer. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant point of understanding which is used to respond to the question. • One further mark should be awarded for showing detailed development of understanding. 	20	<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: venue; setting; establishing mood and atmosphere; period; genre/style; plot; themes/issues; character motivation; character development; character interaction; relationship between characters; any other relevant feature.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
	<p>In the second part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the second part of the question, the candidate must explain, in detail, the ways in which they would use five design concepts that would help them convey the importance to an audience. • There are ten marks available for this part of the question. Credit should be given for the quality of the explanations given. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant design concept. • One further mark should be awarded for detailed development of each design concept. • The candidate must make a connection between their descriptions in the first part of their answer and the explanations in the second part of their answer. 		<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: venue; set design; period; shifts in time; stage configuration; actor/audience relationship; lighting; sound; costume; props; drama media; make-up and hair; special effects; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
6.	<p>This question is in two parts.</p> <p>In the first part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first part of this question, the candidate is required to demonstrate knowledge of their text. He/she must describe, in detail, five changes in mood and atmosphere in their text. • There are ten marks available for this part of the question. Credit should be given for the quality of the descriptions given. • The candidate is required to give an extended response and must use textual references to help justify their answer. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant point of understanding which is used to respond to the question. • One further mark should be awarded for each point the candidate goes on to give further detailed development of understanding. 	20	<p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: setting; stage imagery; plot; themes and issues; character motivation; character development; character interaction; relationships between characters; creation of conflict/tension; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
	<p>In the second part of the answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the second part, the candidate must explain, in detail, five design concepts that would help them to highlight the changes in mood and atmosphere. • There are ten marks available for this part of the question. Credit should be given for the quality of the explanations given. • One mark should be awarded for each relevant production concept. • One further mark should be awarded for each production concept if the candidate has given further detailed development of each production concept. • The candidate must make a connection between their descriptions in the first part of their answer and the explanations in the second part of their answer. • The candidate must use textual references to help to justify their answer. 		<p>The candidate may refer to the following in their answer: set design; period; stage configuration; actor/audience relationship; lighting; sound; drama media; props; costume; make-up and hair; special effects; and any other relevant features.</p>

Section 2 -Performance Analysis

In this section candidates are asked to give a performance analysis of a theatrical performance that they have either seen live or watched on a video recording. The theatrical performance must have been presented in the past two years. Candidates are asked to think about individual aspects of a production.

The play selected for the performance analysis must be different from the selected text in Section 1.

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
7.	This question asks the candidate to focus on one production and to choose two production areas to analyse. The candidate must give equal weighting to the two chosen production areas.	20	<p>Acting</p> <p>The candidate may select from the following in their answer: the overall production concept; acting style; pre-show; period; the quality of characterisation; the number of parts the actor plays; the different ways that the actor uses his/her voice; the different ways that the actor uses his/her movement; the relationship between spoken text and physical movement or gesture; interaction with other actors throughout the performance; working as an ensemble; the actor's use of props and/or costume; the actor/audience relationship; actor/audience interaction; changes in mood/ atmosphere; level of appropriateness/ innovation/creativity/ success of acting; any other relevant features.</p>

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
	<p>One mark will be awarded for the identification and explanation of each feature of the performance that communicates the genre and/or style* of the play (2 production areas - max 10 marks)</p> <p>*Note on genre and/or style: accept a candidate's definition of genre and/or style in its broadest sense. Similarly, the candidate's identification of the genre and/or style may be implicit throughout the response.</p> <p>Candidates may refer to more than one genre and/or style in their response and this is acceptable.</p> <p>One further mark will be awarded for each explanation which is detailed and insightful (max 10 marks). It should draw out the implications of each feature in regard to achieving dramatic impact and enhancing appreciation of the performance.</p> <p>(If the candidate analyses all four production areas, all four should be marked and credit given for the best two)</p>		<p>Costume The candidate may select from the following in their answer: the overall production concept; period; style; age; personality; status; location; occupation; occasion; immediate circumstances; fabrics/materials; colours; proportion; texture; a representational approach; use of abstract ideas; use of expressionistic ideas; the on-stage world; the off-stage world; changes in mood/atmosphere; any other relevant features.</p> <p>Set The candidate may select from the following in their answer: the overall production concept; time period and location; changing locations; actor/audience relationship; central metaphor; visual images; visual environment; style and tone; illusionistic setting or stylised setting; line, mass, composition, texture, colour, hue, saturation, use of scenic flats, stage cloths, backcloths, cyclorama; use of rostra; projections; any other relevant features.</p> <p>Directing The candidate may select from the following in their answer: type of performance - text/non text/other, interpretative choices made, communication of plot, themes/issues, characterisation, preparation and research, genre, style, period - as appropriate, design concepts, overall directorial concept, acting style, actor/audience relationship, rehearsal workshops/character workshops. Level of appropriateness/innovation/creativity/success of the directing; any other relevant features.</p>

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]