

GCSE Drama

Subject Guidance for Summer 2021



GCSE DRAMA

Exceptional Assessment Adaptations (for 2020–2021)

GCSE Drama

COURSE DELIVERY & CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT TASK

2021

GCSE Drama

Guidance for the delivery of Component 1 and 2 2020/21

The following guidance is to be used alongside the specification for GCSE Drama, and the specification Addendum for GCSE Drama 2020/21, which remains fundamentally unchanged. Some alterations have been suggested to allow for the delivery and assessment of controlled assessment.

Component 1: Devised Performance

This unit will respond to the pre-release stimulus material on the CCEA website. For submission in 2021 and 2022, candidates will respond to the stimuli released in November 2019.

Candidates will work in groups of between two and six to research, devise, rehearse and perform or present a realisation of their chosen pre-release stimulus material, whilst maintaining the required social distance during preparation and performance.

An approach as to how a group might operate could take the form of working individually within a group of two to six. Students would adhere to social distancing requirements whilst negotiating and devising, and the style of the piece would allow solo performances in the form of devised monologues which relate to the group ideas on their chosen pre-release material to be presented as the one performance. This approach will enable all requirements of the component to be met, including the completion of the student log. If conditions change due to COVID-19, this approach will allow students to continue working remotely towards the end product.

It will also be acceptable, if the above suggestion is not possible, that candidates work individually on the pre-release stimulus and present a solo piece in the form of a devised monologue or monologues as a final product. If presenting a monologue or monologues, the minimum time is 3 minutes per candidate. The required timing of the work may include the use of music, video, text or sound (multimedia) to help communicate evidence of research influences and concept/meaning to the audience. Creative use of “off text” physicalisation, including stillness and movement/mime to convey meaning, will also be accepted. The time allocated to the use of multimedia and aspects of “off text” physicalisation should not outweigh the devised performance time. Sources of text other than a published play, television, screen or radio play can be used to help create the devised piece.

All designers should design work for at least one other student and the length of design presentations remains unchanged.

The analysis in Section 3 of the Student Log would then centre on their evaluation of self-management with indications about the difficulty of working with the others in the present situation.

The performances and presentations will be recorded and submitted for moderation to CCEA by the stipulated deadline.

Component 2: Scripted Performance

Candidates will work in groups of between two and six students to choose a script to rehearse and perform that is different from their set text, whilst maintaining the required social distance during preparation and performance. Where stage directions indicate performers should be closer than the required distance, then the teacher should provide alternative staging ideas.

Where this is not possible a performance of a monologue or monologues for one character from one published play will be accepted thus ensuring the candidates can express characterisation, artistic intention, style and genre in their performance. If presenting a monologue or monologues the minimum time is 3 minutes per candidate. Monologues can be edited or taken from different parts of the play. The required timing of the work may include the use of music, video, text or sound (multimedia) to help communicate meaning, characterisation, artistic intention, style and genre. Creative use of “off text” physicalisation, including stillness and movement/mime to convey the intended meaning, will also be accepted. The time allocated to the use of multimedia and aspects of “off text” physicalisation should not outweigh the scripted performance time. All designers should design work for at least one other student and the length of design presentations remains unchanged. Examples of the most popular play choices which include monologues are indicated below:

Joyriders, Christina Reid; Dancing at Lughnasa, Brian Friel; Philadelphia, Here I Come, Brian Friel; Stags and Hens, Willy Russell; Our Day Out, Willy Russell; Shakers/Bouncers, John Godber; Be My Baby, Amanda Whittington; Bold Girls, Rona Munro; Cagebirds, David Campton; Living with Lady Macbeth, Rob John; My Mother Said I Never Should, Charlotte Keatley; Observe the Sons of Ulster, Frank McGuinness; Steel Magnolias, Robert Harling; Top Girls, Caryl Churchill.

The performances and presentations will be recorded and submitted for moderation to CCEA, at the beginning of May, in place of Visiting Moderation.