

GCSE DRAMA

AT A GLANCE	AQA NEW SPECIFICATION FORMAT
<p>A pie chart illustrating the distribution of the three components of the GCSE Drama specification. The chart is divided into three segments: a large blue segment representing 'Understanding Drama' (40%), a large red segment representing 'Devising Drama' (40%), and a smaller green segment representing 'Texts in Practice' (20%). A legend to the right of the chart identifies the colors: blue for Understanding Drama, red for Devising Drama, and green for Texts in Practice.</p>	<p>Component 1: Understanding Drama – The study and exploration of a set text, considering theatrical theory and history through practical lessons. This component also examines evaluative skills through analysis of live theatre. 1h45m written exam worth 40% of the GCSE</p> <p>Component 2: Devising Drama – Creation and performance of an original piece of drama, with an extensive written log book demonstrating skills and techniques which have been studied and applied throughout the process. Internally examined and worth 40% of the GCSE</p> <p>Component 3: Texts in Practice – Performance of two extracts from one play which contrasts with that studied in Component 1. Externally examined and worth 20% of the GCSE.</p>
SUCCESS TIPS	
<p>For the written exam:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a thorough knowledge of your set text by re-reading it regularly to maintain familiarity • Be imaginative in your interpretation of the set text • Ensure that your understanding of the context of the play is secure with independent research • Don't rely on dialogue alone to ascertain tone and narrative - be clear about implied meanings and the potential for non-verbal communication • Ensure that you have extensive notes on each character, demonstrating understanding from the point of view of voice, movement, gesture, facial expression and interaction. • Use lessons to experiment with scenes in many different ways before you make a decision on your own directorial concept • In your evaluation of live theatre, use technical language to explain what you saw and how it affected the audience response <p>For the practical components:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spend time making notes by your character's lines on voice, movement, gesture, facial expression and interaction with other characters. • Remember that you are always performing in a scene, whether you have lines or not. • Receive and act upon feedback on your performance from your teacher and other members of the class to help you improve on your work. • Be aware of your audience in terms of blocking and communication. • Make decisions about your intended audience response for every scene and work backwards from that intention to ensure you will achieve it. • Do vocal and physical warm-ups every day in order to strengthen your voice and your movement skills. • Make sure you attend all lessons leading up to the performance examinations; your attendance affects your own and other's performance. 	