

GCSE Drama:

WJEC Eduqas GCSE in DRAMA

Qualification Accreditation Number: 601/8420/6

Subject content

The WJEC Eduqas GCSE Drama specification is designed to give learners a broad and balanced experience of drama. The specification is designed to integrate knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed across a range of dramatic activities. Across the three components learners will study:

- one complete performance text
- two extracts from a second contrasting performance text placed within the context of the whole text
- either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or the characteristics of a genre of drama.

Learners will have the opportunity to work practically as designers and/or performers on:

- one devised performance using the techniques or characteristics of their chosen theatre practitioner or genre
- one performance based on the second contrasting performance text using sections of text from the two extracts.

In Components 1 and 2, learners are given the opportunity to develop acting and/or design skills as appropriate to their interests and facilities available in the centre. Learners may choose the same skill for each component, or a different skill for each component. Learners must choose from the list below:

- performing
- lighting design
- sound design
- set design (including props)
- costume design (including hair and make-up).

Learners should adopt safe working practices in all components as directed by the centre. In addition to their own theatre making, learners must also know and understand the roles of performer, designer and director, and participate in theatre as an audience member.

How it is assessed

Component 1: Devising Theatre

Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated

40% of qualification

Learners will be assessed on either acting or design.

Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre using either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or a genre, in response to a stimulus set by WJEC.

Learners must produce:

- a realisation of their piece of devised theatre
- a portfolio of supporting evidence
- an evaluation of the final performance or design.

Component 2: Performing from a Text

Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner

20% of qualification

Learners will be assessed on either acting or design.

Learners study two extracts from the same performance text chosen by the centre.

Learners participate in one performance using sections of text from both extracts.

Component 3: Interpreting Theatre
Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes
40% of qualification

Section A: Set Text

A series of questions on one set text from a choice of five:

1. The Tempest, William Shakespeare
2. The Caucasian Chalk Circle, Bertolt Brecht
3. Hard to Swallow, Mark Wheeller
4. War Horse, Michael Morpurgo, adapted by Nick Stafford
5. DNA, Dennis Kelly.

Section B: Live Theatre Review

One question, from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation of a given aspect of a live theatre production seen during the course.