

SPEECH AND PERFORMANCE THEORY SIXTH GRADE

9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Time allowed: three hours

Thursday, 22nd August, 2002

NB: The candidate's written expression will be taken into consideration.

QUESTION 1

- (a) (10 marks)
Transcribe the following short passage into phonetic script representing General Australian speech. Indicate primary stress, vowel length, syllabic consonants, linking [r] and dark [ɫ] as they occur.

Text from Winton, T. *That eye, the sky*
(Melbourne: McPhee Gribble/Penguin, 1986) 52-53

- (b) (5 marks)
What is meant by the term *similitude*?
Illustrate your answer with an example.
- (c) (10 marks)
Explain how the pronunciations below have occurred, and comment on whether or not you consider these pronunciations to be acceptable.

ʌm¹pleznt

¹ðæp bɔi

QUESTION 2

(25 marks)

You have a role in a forthcoming production which will be staged in **two different venues**:

The first:

- a 70-seat studio space

The second:

- a school hall that seats 500, and has poor acoustics

How will you ensure vocal readiness for each venue?

Discuss the importance of voice warm-ups and outline an appropriate routine.

QUESTION 3

(25 marks)

Text from Berry, C. *The Actor and the Text*
(London: Virgin Books, 1993) 49

Discuss this statement, using

either the text printed below from *The Winter's Tale*, by William Shakespeare
or **your own selection**, to be appended to the examination booklet

The Winter's Tale Act 5 Scene 3 (edited)

King Leontes thinks he has killed his wife Hermione, and for fifteen years he has been grieving for her. She is actually still alive, and at the end of the play Paulina presents her to him as if she were a statue.

(Enter Leontes, Polixenes, Florizel, Perdita, Camillo, Paulina, Lords and attendants)

Leontes O grave and good Paulina, the great comfort
That I have had of thee! But we came
To see the statue of our queen.

Paulina Behold, and say 'tis well
(She draws a curtain and reveals the figure of Hermione, standing like a statue)
I like your silence; it the more shows off
Your wonder. But yet speak, my liege.
Comes it not something near?

QUESTION 3 (continued)

Leontes Her natural posture. O, thus she stood,
Even with such life of majesty – warm life,
As now it coldly stands – when first I wooed her.
I am ashamed.

Paulina Indeed, my lord. No longer shall you gaze on 't, lest your fancy
May think anon it moves.

Leontes Let be, let be!
What was he that did make it? See,
Would you not deem it breathed, and that those veins
Did verily bear blood?
The very life seems warm upon her lip.
Let no man mock me, for I will kiss her.

Paulina Good my lord, forbear.
The ruddiness upon her lip is wet.
You'll mar it if you kiss it, stain your own
With oily painting. Either forbear,
Quit presently the chapel, or resolve you
For more amazement. If you can behold it,
I'll make the statue move indeed, descend,
And take you by the hand.

Leontes What you can make her do
I am content to look on;

Paulina Music; awake her; strike! (*Music*)
'Tis time. Descend. Be stone no more. Approach.
Strike all that look upon with marvel. Come,
I'll fill your grave up. Stir. Nay, come away.
Bequeath to death your numbness, for from him
Dear life redeems you
[*The statue moves and descends*] You perceive she stirs.
Start not. Her actions shall be holy as
You hear my spell is lawful. Do not shun her
Lest she die again,
Nay, present your hand.
When she was young, you wooed her. Now, in age,
Is she become the suitor?
[*Leontes and Hermione touch hands*]

Leontes O, she's warm!

QUESTION 4

(25 marks)

Write an essay on **one** of the following topics.

Support your discussion by referring to at least one dramatist and one of their works.

either Satire in Jacobean drama

or Language, character and plot in Jacobean tragedy

or *'Shakespeare was acutely aware of the importance of character types who not only developed the plot, but could be perceived to have a life of their own.'*

Discuss this statement with reference to at least two **minor characters** in Shakespeare's plays.