



General Certificate of Secondary Education  
June 2012

## Drama

42401

### Written Paper

Friday 18 May 2012 9.00 am to 10.30 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

### Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

### Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Use pencil only for sketches and diagrams.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is 42401.
- Answer **two** questions.
- Answer **Question 1** in Section A and **one** further question, to be chosen from **either** Section B **or** Section C.
- In Section B you must **not** write about the same play or performance used to answer Section A.
- You may support your answers with sketches or diagrams if you wish.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

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**Section A****Practical work completed during the course****This section is compulsory.**Answer **all four** parts of the question.At the beginning of your answer, state the title of your piece of practical work.

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**Question 1**

Choose a piece of practical coursework in which you were involved as actor **or** designer **or** technician. Answer questions 

0	1
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0	4
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 on the same practical work and the same skill.

0	1
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Describe what the piece was about; state the period, style and genre of the piece, your target audience, the performance space and any technical or design elements used. You should state whether your involvement was as actor **or** designer **or** technician.

*(10 marks)*

0	2
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Explain how you applied your skill as actor **or** designer **or** technician in the early stages of preparing this piece of practical work to help create an engaging piece of drama. Give **at least one** example of your preparatory work.

*(10 marks)*

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Analyse how you developed your own skill to tackle problems. You should refer to **at least one** occasion in the preparation period when you used your acting **or** design **or** technical skills to overcome **at least one** specific problem.

*(10 marks)*

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Evaluate your success in creating engaging drama for your audience through the application of your specific skill as actor **or** designer **or** technician. You should support your answer with reference to **at least one** particular moment from the final performance.

*(10 marks)*

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**Section B****Study and performance of a scripted play**

Answer **one** question **either** from this section **or** from Section C.

Answer **both** parts of your chosen question.

You must **not** write about the same play or performance used to answer Section A.

At the beginning of your answer, state the title of the play and the playwright.

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**EITHER****Question 2**

Choose **one** role from a play you have studied and performed during your course. Your answers to both parts of this question should focus on acting.

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Explain how you developed both your vocal and your physical skills during rehearsals to create a character that was appropriate to your group's interpretation of the play script. Give clear details of your research, rehearsal and other preparation work that helped you to understand and perform your character. *(20 marks)*

**AND**

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Analyse your success in demonstrating your character's attitude(s) to and/or relationships with other characters on stage at particular moments. You should refer to **at least one** specific section of the play and give clear reasons to support your answer. *(20 marks)*

**OR****Question 3**

Choose **one** play you have studied and worked on practically during your course. Your answers to both parts of this question should focus on your skills as designer **or** technician **or** actor.

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Explain how you developed your chosen skill as designer **or** technician **or** actor between your first reading of the script and the performance of it. Give clear details of your personal research, the rehearsal process and any other preparation work that helped you demonstrate your understanding of the play. *(20 marks)*

**AND**

0	8
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Analyse your success as designer **or** technician **or** actor in **one** scene or section from the play where you felt your skills were best appreciated by the audience. You should refer in detail to your own skills and give clear reasons to support your answer. *(20 marks)*

Turn over ►

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**Section C****Study of a live theatre production seen**

Answer **one** question **either** from this section **or** from Section B.

Answer **both** parts of your chosen question.

At the beginning of your answer, state the name of the live theatre production and where you saw it.

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**EITHER****Question 4**

Choose **one** live theatre production you have seen during your course that had visual impact.

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Describe an aspect of design, technical and/or acting skill that contributed to the visual impact in **one** scene or section. *(20 marks)*

**AND**

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Analyse why the visual effect you describe was so successful at this moment in the production. You should refer to particular design, technical and/or acting skills from the production and give clear reasons to support your answer. *(20 marks)*

**OR****Question 5**

Choose **one** live theatre production you have seen during your course. Choose **one** actor who impressed you with their ability to create a character.

1	1
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Describe in detail how your chosen actor used vocal and physical skills to establish a character through their first appearance in the play. *(20 marks)*

**AND**

1	2
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Evaluate the success of the same actor in maintaining or developing their character in a later part of the play. *(20 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**