



# key stage 4 2001

## GCSE Drama

Edexcel has developed its GCSE Drama qualification to match the Drama aspects of the new national curriculum key stage 4 programme of study for English. This has been accredited by QCA for first examination in June 2003.

### Key Features

- Develops current practice and existing resources
- 60% teacher-assessed coursework, 40% externally assessed practical examination
- Flexible approach to Drama activities embracing a range of teaching styles
- Options in devised performance, performance support and scripted performance
- Teacher designed programme of study within a prescribed framework
- Centre choice of plays and stimulus material to be explored through practical work
- Opportunities for teaching ICT, Citizenship and key skills sign-posted
- INSET programmes to cover all aspects of the qualification

### Support and Materials

- Specification guide
- Student guide
- Newsletters
- Supporting textbook from Hodder and Stoughton
- Edexcel's regional network provides both office and subject support at a local level

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You can find a full range of specifications, specimen assessment material and student guides on our website at [www.edexcel.org.uk](http://www.edexcel.org.uk). If you prefer, or have not received the material that you require, you may order hard copies of materials from our Publications Department on 01623 467 467.

## Introduction

The new Edexcel GCSE Drama retains all of the features of the previous GCSE Drama syllabus within a clearer structure and with a more integrated approach to practical and written tasks.

## Summary of Content

The Drama Coursework (60%) component consists of 2 teacher-designed drama workshops that can take place at any time during the course. Workshop 1 enables teachers to design a programme of study in drama that is assessed through the students' response to a range of stimulus material. Workshop 2 is based on the practical exploration of a play chosen by teachers to suit the interests of their students.

The Drama Performance (40%) component has 3 options. Scripted Performance enables students to be assessed on their performance in a published play. Devised Performance enables students to create their own drama and to be assessed through a performance in original work. Performance Support enables students to be assessed through a design/technical skill in either a scripted or devised play.

## Summary of Scheme of Assessment

The Edexcel GCSE Drama specification consists of 2 papers.

Paper 1 gives teachers a framework in which to teach and assess practical drama activities. Assessment is by both teacher observation and a portfolio of evidence provided by the student. The teacher internally marks this 60% coursework component and a sample of work is externally moderated.

Paper 2 is a practical performance examination. Centres may select their own material which CAN be a published script from which students interpret and perform a role or stimulus material that CAN be developed into a devised performance. Alternatively, students may opt to take on a performance support role in a devised or scripted production using a theatre craft skill (lighting, set, costume, makeup and masks or sound). A visiting examiner will mark this 40% externally assessed component.

## INSET

- Half day meetings around the country introducing the new GCSE Drama specification from November 2000 and continuing in 2001
- Planning meetings for the new specification from spring 2001.

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Details are in our Drama INSET guide and on our website. Also look out for the INSET updates which are going into schools and colleges in December 2000.

These meetings will outline the structure of the new GCSE Drama specification and will support you in planning your new key stage 4 course starting in September 2001. You will also have the opportunity to raise questions.

## Further Information

If you are interested in obtaining more information on this or any other Edexcel qualification, please contact our Customer Response Centre on tel 0870 240 9800, fax 020 7758 6960, or email [enquiries@edexcel.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@edexcel.org.uk).