

DRAMA

0411/13/T/PRE

Paper 1 Set Text

May/June 2014

PRE-RELEASE MATERIAL

To be given to candidates on receipt by the Centre.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

The questions in Paper 1 will be based on the three stimuli and on the extract from John Hodge's play *Collaborators* provided in this booklet.

You may do any preparatory work that is considered appropriate. It is recommended that you perform the extract, at least informally.

You will **not** be permitted to take this copy of the text **or** any other notes or preparation into the examination. A clean copy of the text will be provided with the Question Paper.



This document consists of **30** printed pages and **2** blank pages.

STIMULI

You are required to produce a short piece of drama on each stimulus in preparation for your written examination. Questions will be asked on **each** of the stimuli and will cover both practical and theoretical issues.

- 1 Difficult choices
- 2 The bus journey
- 3 A birthday to remember!

EXTRACT**Taken from *Collaborators* by John Hodge**

These notes are intended to help you understand the context of the drama.

John Hodge's play *Collaborators* is set in Moscow in 1938 and was first performed in London in 2011.

The play is based on an element of historical fact. Mikhail Bulgakov (1891–1940) was a Russian playwright whose stage version of *The White Guard* was banned from performance by the Soviet authorities. In *Collaborators*, we learn that Stalin has seen this play fifteen times and is a huge fan.

In the play, Bulgakov lives among dissidents and is watched closely by the secret police when he receives an unexpected commission to write a play about Stalin in honour of the dictator's forthcoming sixtieth birthday. Stalin emerges, threatening initially (in a dream) to smash a typewriter over Bulgakov's head, but then bizarrely offers to write the play while Bulgakov gets on with signing government papers in Stalin's name.

The play is in two Acts, and the extract consists of the whole of Act One.

Characters

Mikhail Bulgakov	A writer, aged forty-seven
Yelena	His wife, thirty-something
Vasily	A former aristocrat, sixty-something
Praskovya	A female teacher
Sergei	A young man
Grigory	A young writer
Anna	An actress
Vladimir	An NKVD Officer (Secret Police)
Stepan	An NKVD Officer (Secret Police)
Joseph Stalin	A dictator, aged fifty-nine

Minor roles:

Doctor, two Actors, Nurse, two NKVD Men, Driver, Cleaner, Doctors, Apothecaries, Molière, Lagrange

ACT ONE

One double bed.

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VASILLY: Nice work, Bulgakov.

[End of Act One.]

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