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3

91514



915140



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## Level 3 Drama, 2017

### 91514 Interpret a text from a prescribed playwright to demonstrate knowledge of a theatre form or period

9.30 a.m. Tuesday 28 November 2017  
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Interpret a text from a prescribed playwright to demonstrate knowledge of a theatre form or period.	Interpret a text from a prescribed playwright to demonstrate informed knowledge of a theatre form or period.	Interpret a text from a prescribed playwright to demonstrate perceptive knowledge of a theatre form or period.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

**You should attempt ALL the questions in this booklet.**

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

**YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

**Achievement**

**TOTAL**

**10**

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## INSTRUCTIONS

Choose ONE text by one of the prescribed playwrights whose work you have studied this year. Use this text to answer ALL of the questions in this booklet.

Read the questions carefully before you begin. Each has different requirements.

### PRESCRIBED PLAYWRIGHTS

Jean Anouilh	Federico Garcia Lorca	Jacob Rajan & Justin Lewis
Aristophanes	Briar Grace-Smith	Renee
Samuel Beckett	Gary Henderson	Maurice Shadbolt
Albert Belz	Sarah Kane	William Shakespeare
Jean Betts	Oscar Kightley & Dave Armstrong	George Bernard Shaw
Bertolt Brecht	Hone Kouka	Stephen Sinclair
Lynda Chanwai-Earle	Greg McGee	Sophocles
Anton Chekhov	Bruce Mason	Tom Stoppard
Caryl Churchill	Arthur Miller	Mervyn Thompson
Euripides	Vincent O'Sullivan	Timberlake Wertenbaker
Michelanne Forster	Harold Pinter	Oscar Wilde
Toa Fraser		Tennessee Williams

Write the details of your chosen text in the box below.

Text:	<u>A street car named Desire</u>
Playwright(s):	<u>Tennessee</u>
Theatre form or period:	<u>Williams</u>

**QUESTION ONE: USE OF TECHNOLOGY**ASSESSOR'S  
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Identify a key character from your chosen text.

~~Blanche~~ Stanley //

Identify a typical technology of the form or period that would be used to communicate this character to the audience.

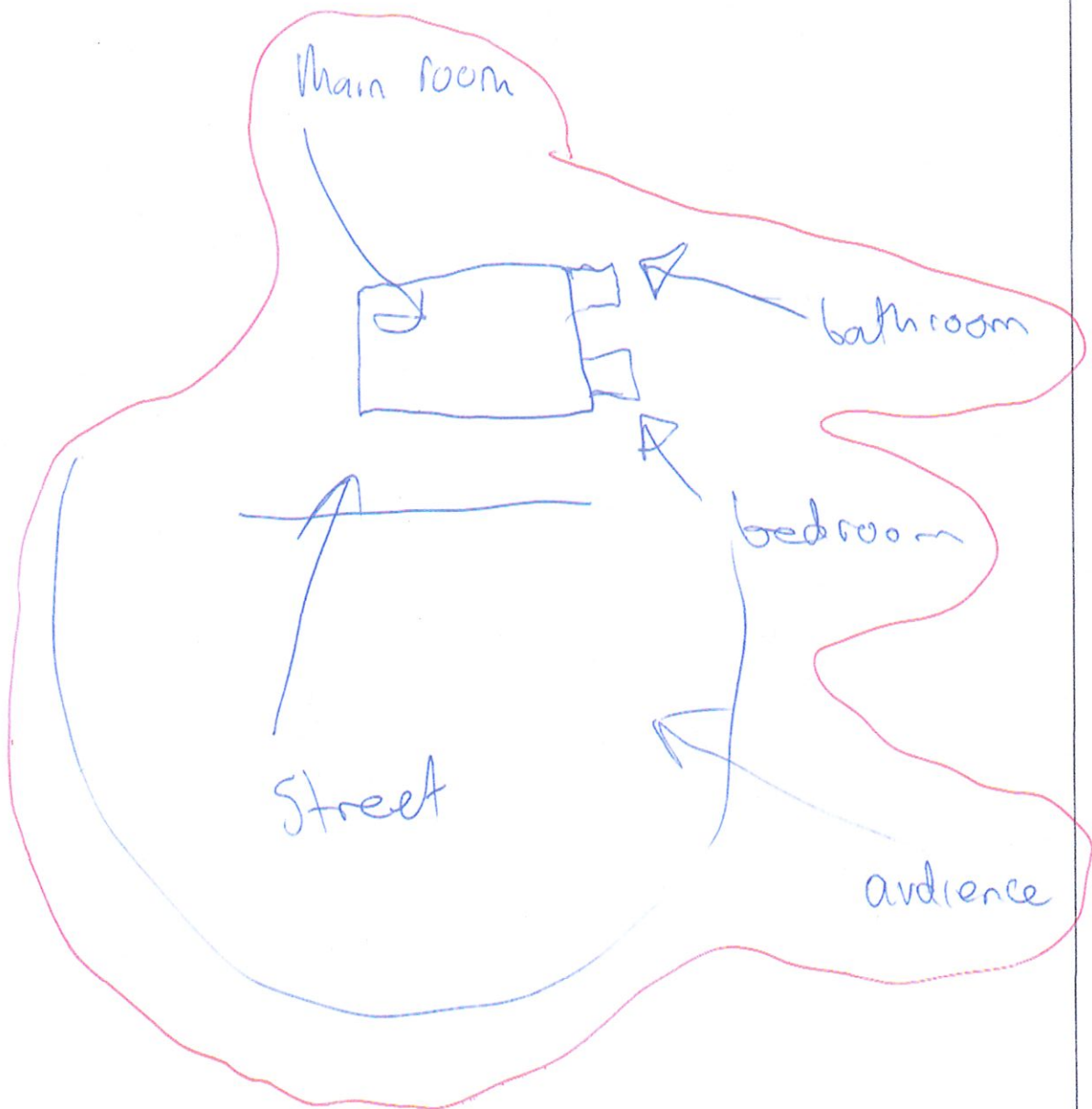
Setting //

- (a) Explain, in detail, how this technology would be used to communicate this character in a performance of the text.

Stanley is a lower working class man who lives in a poorer part of New Orleans which also contrasts Blanche's character. Stanley is supposed to be the harder less refined man, depicted as the alpha male, or aggressive type. Stanley's house is a three room apartment including the bathroom and main living room. Because of this, Blanche's bed is out in the main room also. This shows the audience what class socially and economically Stanley falls into, and in this, a conclusion can be drawn about his character. //

Sketch in the space below if you want to illustrate any part of your answers to Question One. Annotate the sketch(es) to explain the point(s) you are making.

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(b) Discuss how this use of technology is typical of the form or period. You could consider:

- key developments in theatre technologies
- the social or political message
- the playwright's purpose.

Give specific details to support your answer.

The playwright's purpose was largely shown through the rape scene, ideas of domestic violence, which also occurs earlier as well when Stanley hits Stella. The setting is used to communicate to the audience that Stanley is an uncivilised man with no moral or manners. This message in the play is that domestic violence actually exists, and that it's relevant and intolerable. Rape clearly isn't sex, but rather an act of physical violence, and an attack on one's mental health, and we see that it is the violent people who commit these crimes. The playwright's purpose was to comment on this. This was shown through the set.

## QUESTION TWO: COMMUNICATION OF PLACE OR SETTING

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Identify a place or setting that is significant in your chosen text.

New Orleans French Quarter //

- (a) Explain, in detail, how this place or setting would typically be communicated to the audience of the form or period.

*Be sure that you are not repeating points made in other answers.*

At the time, the influences of jazz in New Orleans was very relevant. The town of jazz was synonymous with the music. The music was also however the music that was largely played by the lower class African American demographic of New Orleans, and across America. It was like how presently rap is widely seen as African American or "black" music. Given what this was and somewhat still is ~~associated~~ associated with, the French Quarter of New Orleans was portrayed in A Streetcar Named Desire as a 'poor side of town.' //



(b) Discuss the significance of this place or setting to the form or period. You could consider:

- the historical or geographical context
- the world view of the playwright
- key themes and ideas.

Give specific details to support your answer.

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Because Stanley was portrayed as the poorer uncivilised character, showing that he lives in a likely poorer neighbourhood also through music is just another successful way of commenting on his character. His poorer middle working class status needed to be communicated clearly to the audience to show the themes we see resonating in Stanley, right throughout the play. It is everything that builds together, his costume, his house, his neighbourhood, all things that add together that show us who he is in raping and abusing his wife and wife's sister.

A3

### QUESTION THREE: USE OF A PERFORMANCE CONVENTION

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Identify a typical performance convention used in the theatre form or period.

Monologue //

- (a) Explain, in detail, how this convention would typically be used in a performance of the text.

*Be sure that you are not repeating points made in other answers.*

~~Blanche~~ Blanche explains to Mitch what happened with her deceased husband, and in doing so begins to trail off into a lost in her head monologue. It's a way to connect to places in time together in one moment; the present and the past. Blanche begins talking about the night ~~the~~ her husband took his own life, saying "the polka tune the night Alan - wait! (a distant gunshot is heard) There now, the gunshot. it always stops after that (the polka music dies out again)," showing the audience her deteriorating state of mind. //



- (b) Discuss the effect of the use of this performance convention. You could consider:
- how this convention manipulates place, time, and/or role
  - the overall style of the form or period
  - what the use of this performance convention communicates to the audience.

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Give specific details to support your answer.

During her Monologue, the memory of her husband walks onto stage as we hear the sounds from the night he died. This bridge between the two places in history immerses the audience in Blanche's story and apparent insanity. She even holds onto time for a moment when she stops mid sentence and says "wait." The suspense is gripped and the audience left in anticipation for the gunshot. Often times in American Realism, the aim is to shock the audience, in order to communicate a point. Watching a character literally lose their mind on stage holds the audience both in tension and pity as they watch the main character gradually fade away into tragedy. This specific monologue is effective because of the use of ~~tech~~ tech and clever scripting, devastating the audience with Blanche's broken psyche. //

A4

## Annotated Exemplar Template

### Achieved exemplar 2017

Subject: <b>DRAMA</b>		Standard: <b>91514</b>	Total score: <b>10</b>
Q	Grade score	Annotation	
1	A3	<p>The candidate simply describes the technology of setting. Details are generalised and fit with the theatre form of Realism. They name a technology typical of the form and simply explain, how it was typical. Sketch does not add to the detail. They discuss how the use of set relates to the playwright's purpose, details are broad and linked to thematic ideas and plot details.</p> <p>If more detail had been given throughout the response they may have gained A4.</p>	
2	A3	<p>The candidate identifies the place/setting and makes the connection between the use of jazz music to help the audience identify the setting of New Orleans. This is simply done. The significance of the place/setting and the form/period is simply done identifying "...poorer uncivilized character...", and the poverty of the setting.</p> <p>If more detail had been throughout the response they may have gained A4.</p>	
3	A4	<p>The response describes how the convention of monologue would typically have been used in the theatre form or period and within the text. They explain how this convention would have been used in a specific way in a performance of the text providing some detail, supporting the response with evidence from the text.</p> <p>To gain M5, more specific links between the theatre form, text and the convention were needed, as well as a detailed explanation of what it communicates to the audience.</p>	