

91219



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SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

Level 2 Drama, 2016

91219 Discuss drama elements, techniques, conventions and technologies within live performance

2.00 p.m. Friday 2 December 2016
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Discuss drama elements, techniques, conventions and technologies within live performance.	Discuss drama elements, techniques, conventions and technologies within live performance in an informed manner.	Discuss drama elements, techniques, conventions and technologies within live performance in a perceptive manner.

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.

Merit

TOTAL

15

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QUESTION ONE: COMMUNICATION OF A THEME OR IDEA

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To answer this question, refer to a drama (either devised or scripted) you performed in this year.

Title of the performance: *The Importance of being Ernest* by Oscar Wilde

Brief summary of the action:

The play is about a man who uses a fake name in order to lead two separate lives both at his country home and in the city. This turns out badly when his fiancé and the fiancé of his friend who stole his fake identity meet and believe they are engaged to the same man.

(a) Describe an important theme or idea communicated to the audience through the performance.

An important theme in "the importance of being Ernest" is the theme of Marriage. The entire play is centred around the concept of marriage and whether or not it was positive or negative. ~~The~~ The question of whether it is positive or negative is expressed by Lady Bracknell when she says "Engagement should come as a surprise to a woman, whether ~~it~~ it be positive or negative." The positive idea of marriage is portrayed through characters like; Cecily, Algernon (Ernest) Gwendolen and Jack (Ernest) ~~through~~ through their excitement towards marriage whereas the negative idea is portrayed through characters like Jack's friend at the bar (cont. on extra paper.)

(b) Explain how a character communicated this theme or idea. Give specific details of what the character did or said in the performance to support your answer.

The character I played, Cecily Cardew, communicated the theme of Marriage through her quotes and her opinion of marriage. Cecily Cardew addresses the idea of marriage, in the play she talks about

being whisked away by a handsome prince, it is her dream to get married. So when she is engaged to Ernest (Algernon) and some strange woman (Gwendolen) comes out of nowhere and is threatening her dream, she reacts quite badly. As her conversation with Gwendolen carries on, it begins to develop into an argument. ~~and~~ Whilst there is someone telling her that
cont on extra paper →

- (c) Discuss how the theme or idea communicated in the performance is relevant to you as an individual. You could consider one of the following:
- your own values and attitudes compared to those communicated in the performance
 - how you behave in similar situations to those shown in the performance
 - the differences between values of the time and place in which you live compared with those of the performance.

The way that the theme of marriage is ^{relevant} ~~important~~ to me, is the differences between my ^{attitude toward marriage} ~~values~~ and my reactions to a similar situation as compared to Cecily's in the play. For example ~~for~~ to Cecily there is nothing she wants more than to be married and fall in love, but to me, while I still think that is a nice and beautiful idea, marriage is not as ^{important} important to me. ~~My~~ my attitude towards marriage is that I think it would be nice but unlike Cecily, ^{my} my future is not dependant on being a wife. As for the way I would behave in a similar situation to Cecily and Gwendolen, ~~I~~ even though I understand it is purely for the sake of entertainment, (cont on M5
→ extra paper)

To answer Questions Two and Three, refer to a live theatre performance **you have seen** this year.

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Title: *The curious incident of the dog in the nighttime*
 Playwright/theatre company: Simon Stevens / Auckland Theatre Company

QUESTION TWO: CHARACTER

- (a) (i) Name a key character from the performance you saw, and list important details about them.

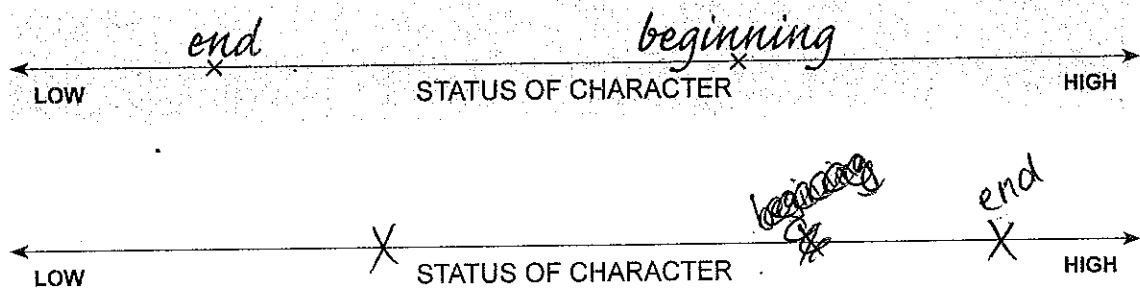
Name: Christopher Boone (played by Tim Earl)

- Main character in Play
- Assumed to have a mild form of Autism
- lives with Father, believes mother is dead.

- (ii) Label TWO points on the line below to represent the status of this key character:

- at the beginning of the performance
- at the end of the performance.

For example:



- (b) Explain how the actor used drama techniques of voice, body, movement and/or use of space to communicate the status of the key character when he or she first appeared on stage.

Give specific details from the performance to support your answer.

The character Christopher Boone, played by Tim Earl, moves from a relatively low personal status to a much higher status as he builds independence. Throughout the play, Earl communicated this through ~~voice~~ body and movement techniques such as ~~voice~~ gesture and posture, and movement techniques such as ~~voice~~. At the beginning of the play Christopher obviously has quite a low status personally, as Tim Earl

uses posture and gestures to suggest that Christopher is not very confident or comfortable in social situations. Christopher's posture is somewhat bent, ~~and~~ and communicates to the audience a sense of ~~anti~~ anti-social behaviour. Tim Earl also uses gesture ~~as~~ as a way to communicate Christopher's nervousness, he uses lots of fidgeting and playing with his hands which shows the audience Christopher's discomfort.

- (c) Discuss the ideas communicated about status, power, or equality in the performance. You could consider one of the following:
- how characters used their status
 - events or actions that resulted in a change in status
 - ideas the playwright intended to communicate about power in relationships or in society.

~~There~~ There were many ideas communicated about status throughout the play "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime." One of the ideas communicated ~~is~~ about status is Christopher's independence. Throughout the course of the play it is ~~established~~ assumed by the audience that Christopher has a mild form of Autism. We also learn from viewing his life with his father that Christopher does not have a lot of independence, along with his lack of independence comes a low personal status, we learn in the play about how Christopher ~~wishes~~ wishes to be more independent, that he ~~for~~ dreams about moving away by himself to go to college and that he often fantasises about being the

cont on extra paper... →

M5

QUESTION THREE: USE OF COLOUR

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Words that can be used to describe the use of colour in a performance include:

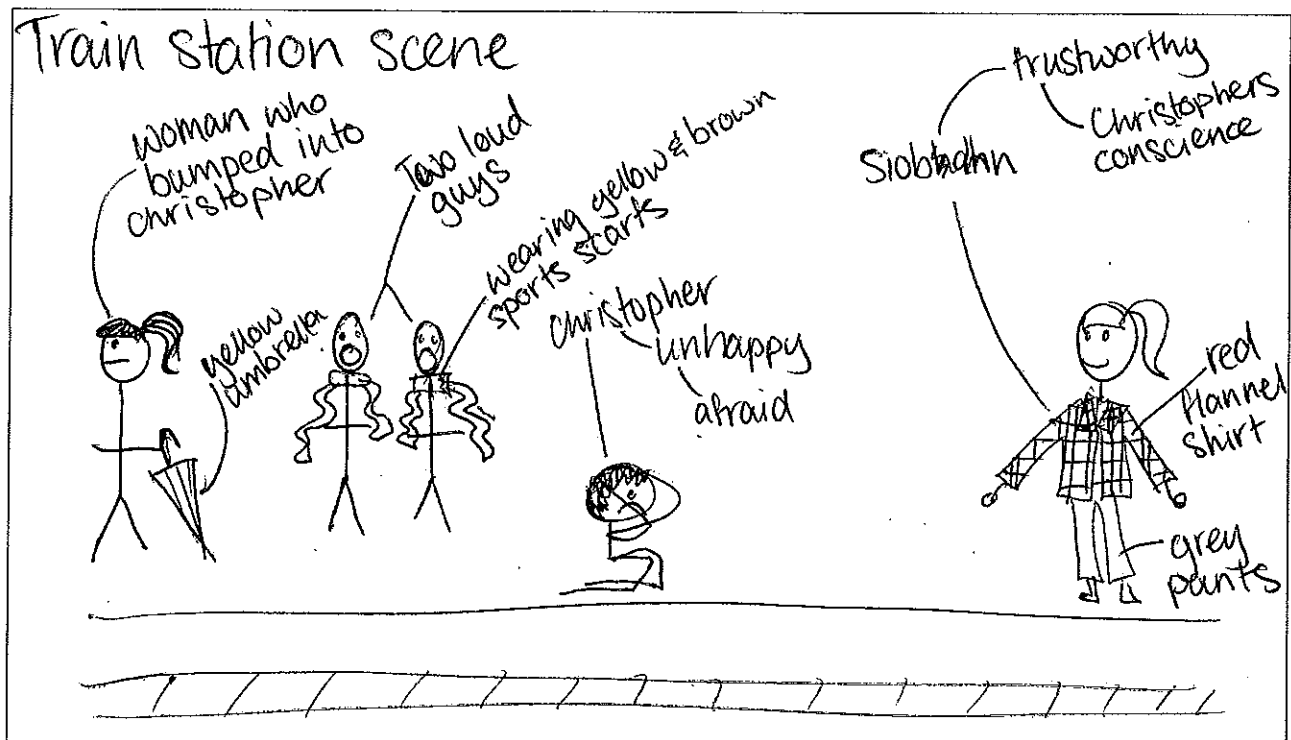
- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------|-----------|
| • Bleached | • Fluorescent | • Pastel | • Sterile |
| • Bright | • Metallic | • Rich | • Vibrant |
| • Cool | • Neutral | • Sombre | • Warm |
| • Contrasting | • Pale | • Sepia | |

Name a theatre technology that used colour to communicate ideas in the performance you saw.

~~Lighting~~ Costume.

- (a) Describe the colour(s) used in this technology. You may sketch and make annotations in the space below to support your answer.

The costume designer used mostly bland, ^{neutral} grey clothing when dressing minor and some major characters. Little spots of warm reds or cool blues were also used occasionally. Sickly yellows and dirty browns were also used in a couple of scenes. Any coloured clothing that wasn't neutral grey was just small pieces like a scarf or an umbrella.



- (b) Explain how this use of colour communicated ideas to the audience about character OR time OR place. Give specific details from the performance to support your answer.

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The use of colour in "The curious incident of the dog in the nighttime" is used by the director to communicate to the audience ~~the how~~ ^{attitude towards} Christopher's ~~feels about~~ ^{feels} certain people. In the play we learn that Christopher hates the colours yellow and brown and loves blue and red. During the play the majority of the characters are wearing all grey, which is a neutral colour to Christopher, this communicates that he has neutral feelings towards these characters. But characters that Christopher feels negatively towards have little bits of yellow or brown on them (cont on extra paper.) →

- (c) Discuss the effectiveness of the use of colour in the performance as a whole. You could consider one of the following:
- how colour was used to enhance mood or tension in the performance
 - how colour was used symbolically
 - the overall colour palette or concept.

The use of colour in the performance as a whole was very effective. The use of colour as a symbol to represent Christopher's emotions towards certain people or things was a very effective way to communicate to the audience ~~how~~ who Christopher did or didn't trust. One ~~is~~ particular use of colour to symbolise Christopher's trust, was Siobahn's ^{light} red flannel shirt. (*) → extra paper

While the majority of the characters wore grey to symbolise that they were neutral to Christopher, Siobahn wore just a little
cont on extra paper...

M5

Extra space if required.

Write the question number(s) if applicable.

ASSESSOR'S
USE ONLY

QUESTION
NUMBER

1a: ~~where~~ where it is suggested that his marriage was a failure when he describes it as "a misunderstanding between myself and a young person." Also Lady Bracknell and her strict, severe opinions on Marriage communicate the negative idea of Marriage.

1b: They are also engaged to the same man, Cecily still manages to maintain her perfect image of her fiancé and thus communicates further the theme of marriage and its importance to Cecily. During the argument Cecily continually denies that Gwendolen could possibly be engaged to the same man as her "Whatever unfortunate entanglement my poor, innocent, trusting boy has gotten himself into, I shall never reproach him with it after we are married."

1c: if it were reality, why would Cecily and Gwendolen fight against one another? If it were me in that situation, my anger would be immediately directed at my fiancé, because I know it is unlikely that the other girl knows why the both of us seem to be engaged to ~~each other~~ the same man. It's much more likely the man knows why. //

Extra space if required.

Write the question number(s) if applicable.

ASSESSOR'S
USE ONLY

QUESTION
NUMBER

2c: only person left on the planet and having to look after himself.

When Christopher runs away by himself to find his mother, it is his first real taste of independence, and while it is very over-whelming, he still manages to make it all the way to London to find his mother. It is this huge act of independence that boosts Christopher's personal status and the way he views himself //

3b: For example, during the trainstation scene, when Christopher is over-whelmed by his surroundings he gets bumped into by a woman carrying a yellow umbrella, this makes Christopher freak out even more. Also during the same scene there are two loud men wearing yellow and brown sports scarfs, the loud men are also contributing to Christopher being over-whelmed //

3c: bit of red, to communicate effectively to the audience that Siobahn was a person that Christopher trusts. //

* Siobahn acted as the ~~an~~ physical representation of Christopher's conscience throughout the play. //

Merit exemplar 2016

Subject:	Drama	Standard:	91219	Total score:	15
Q	Grade score	Annotation			
1	M5	<p>The theme is clearly described. <i>“The entire play is centred around the concept of marriage and whether or not it was positive or negative.”</i> The description is supported by the use of quotations. <i>“Engagement should come as a surprise to a woman, whether it be positive or negative”</i> and (it was) <i>“a misunderstanding between myself and a young person.”</i></p> <p>There is insufficient detail for M6.</p>			
2	M5	<p>The candidate describes the status of a key character at the beginning and end of the performance. <i>“Christopher has quite a low status personally as (he) uses posture and gestures to suggest (he) is not very confident or comfortable in social situations. (His) posture is somewhat bent ... he uses lots of fidgeting and playing with his hands.”</i> <i>“Christopher runs away ... It is this huge act of independence that boosts Christopher’s personal status and the way he views himself.”</i></p> <p>Techniques are described clearly but not in sufficient detail for M6.</p>			
3	M5	<p>Colour used in costume is described clearly but not in detail. <i>“Sickly yellows and dirty browns were also used in a couple of scenes ... For example, during the train station scene, when Christopher is overwhelmed by his surroundings he gets bumped into by a woman carrying a yellow umbrella, this makes Christopher freak out even more.”</i></p>			