

National Certificate of Educational Achievement

2014 Assessment Report

Drama Level 1

- 90011 Demonstrate understanding of the use of drama aspects within live performance**
- 90998 Demonstrate understanding of features of a drama/theatre form**

COMMENTARY

For 90011, candidates need to understand and use drama terminology in relation to the drama aspects. Some candidates either did not have the terminology nor the technical knowledge to achieve this or were not able to recall specific information about the performance. Those who wrote in detail, reflecting on both their own and a live performance they had seen achieved well.

For 90998, the majority of candidates attempted all of the questions. They were able to identify the traditional features of their chosen drama/theatre form. A significant number of candidates were unable to identify a convention of the theatre form and either wrote about drama technologies and techniques or did not attempt all parts of the question. Some candidates were unaware that 'to demonstrate understanding of theatre form' they needed to be able to discuss the origins of the form and the historical and/or social aspects of the form/period. These candidates reflected on their personal experiences of performance in the form, the space in which they performed and the audience they performed to rather than the traditional performance contexts. Candidates should also be encouraged to focus on the historical and/or social context of the form rather than referring only to modern media or a modern context.

STANDARD REPORTS

90011 Demonstrate understanding of the use of drama aspects within live performance

ACHIEVEMENT

Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They commonly:

- named and generally described a character they performed
- described a process convention and how it was used
- explained how they performed and developed their character
- described a key moment in a live performance they had viewed
- described an actor's use of voice techniques to perform a character
- described a moment of tension and the use of one technology and its effect, often including a sketch.

NOT ACHIEVED

Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They commonly:

- described a performance convention rather than a process convention
- summarised the steps they took to use the process convention rather than how they used it
- summarised the play or their character instead of how they performed their role, or used voice techniques
- described roles or performances which were not suitable for the questions
- listed techniques rather than describing HOW they used voice techniques

- selected a moment from the performance which h was not a moment of tension
- wrote about techniques or conventions rather than technology
- explained what happened in the performance but did not explain the effect on the audience
- made vague or general comments about the live performance
- repeated the same information several times without answering the questions.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit commonly:

- described in detail a process convention and how it was used with specific examples
- explained how they performed and developed their character with examples
- described a key moment with some detail in a live performance they had viewed
- described an actor's use of specific voice techniques to perform a character
- explained with detail what was learnt about the character because of the use of voice
- described the a moment of tension and the use of technology in detail, often including a detailed sketch
- explained in some detail the effect of the use of technology
- provided specific examples from the live performance to describe effect.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence commonly:

- named and described a character they performed and a process convention used to develop this character in great detail, referring to the text and using specific examples
- showed in-depth knowledge of the whole performance, linking this knowledge to the drama aspects and the effect
- provided clear, specific examples from the live performance to describe effect.

OTHER COMMENTS

- Candidates found it difficult to write in depth if the live performance they viewed was a musical or physical theatre.
- Candidates who performed a minor character in their own performance generally wrote little.
- Candidates whose character in their live performance was an animal found it challenging to describe their use of specific drama techniques to perform their role.

90998 Demonstrate understanding of features of a drama/theatre form

ACHIEVEMENT

Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They commonly:

- identified a drama/theatre form and referred to that form in their answers
- identified typical character/role of the drama/theatre form
- were able to name some attributes of the character/role
- showed a general understanding of how a character used their body in relation to the audience
- identified a scene that was typical of the drama/theatre form
- named a drama convention
- were able to provide a basic sketch or description of a costume typical of the drama/theatre form.

NOT ACHIEVED

Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They commonly:

- did not link to the drama/theatre form in any parts of the questions
- did not attempt all of the questions
- gave rudimentary evidence on the role on the wall diagram and/or costume sketch
- showed little understanding of the traditional drama/theatre form
- could not identify a drama convention.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit commonly:

- interpreted the questions correctly and provided answers for all parts
- clearly identified the drama/theatre form and linked all of their answers to it
- demonstrated understanding of the purpose of the drama/theatre form in relation to the audience
- used specific details relating to the origins of the drama/theatre form
- were able to identify historical details of the drama/theatre form.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence commonly:

- were able to make links to the social context of the drama/theatre form
- used quotes to support their answers
- were able to make links between the drama/theatre form and its intended purpose for the audience.

OTHER COMMENTS

- Some candidates wrote about their own performances in the drama/theatre form, rather than referencing the historical and/or social context, which is the focus of this standard.
- [Aa](#) significant number of candidates were unable to correctly name a convention of the drama/theatre form. Teachers should refer to EN4 of the standard for a list of features which could be included in this external.
- [Aa](#) significant number of candidates wrote extensively in Q1 providing the information required for Q2 and Q3 and then did not provide this information for Q2 and Q3. Where possible the panel recognised the candidates' understanding demonstrated in their earlier responses.