

Assessment Specifications

Level 3 Drama 2024

Published in December 2023

General information

Domain: Drama Studies

Assessment method: Examination

Assessment medium: Printed paper

Standards: 91514, 91518

Drama subject page

National secondary examinations timetable

Information relating to all achievement standards

Candidates will be required to name and provide details of the drama / theatre form or the live performance.

Candidates may be required to respond in any combination of written response and illustration (sketches and/or diagrams).

Diagrams or sketches will be assessed on the quality of information conveyed and not their artistic merit (i.e. simple stick figures are satisfactory). Candidates should annotate their diagrams or sketches to provide specific detail and to explain their answers.

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard: 91514

Domain: Drama Studies

Title: Interpret a text from a prescribed playwright to

demonstrate knowledge of a theatre form or period

Version: 4

Number of credits: 4

The format of questions for this standard will be similar to those in previous years.

Candidates will be expected to make connections between the text studied and its theatre form or period.

Candidates should be familiar with features of the form, which may include performance space, acting style, themes and ideas, use of conventions and technologies, and the historical and social context of the theatre form or period.

Questions may cover a combination of features of the theatre form or period.

Prescribed playwrights

The chosen text MUST be written by one of the playwrights listed below. Appropriate texts include, but are not limited to, those suggested. The text studied must enable in-depth exploration of the features of the theatre form or period.

Playwrights	Suggested texts
Jean Anouilh	The Lark, Antigone
Aristophanes	The Frogs, Lysistrata
Samuel Beckett	Waiting for Godot, Endgame
Albert Belz	Yours Truly, Raising the Titanics
Jean Betts	Revenge of the Amazons, Ophelia Thinks Harder
William Brandt	Verbatim
Bertolt Brecht	Mother Courage and Her Children, The Caucasian Chalk Circle
Lynda Chanwai-Earle	Foh Sarn, Ka Shue
Anton Chekhov	The Cherry Orchard, The Three Sisters
Caryl Churchill	Top Girls, Softcops
Euripides	The Trojan Women, Medea
Michelanne Forster	Daughters of Heaven
Toa Fraser	Bare, Pure and Deep
Dianna Fuemanna	Falemalama
Federico Garcia Lorca	The House of Bernarda Alba, Blood Wedding
Briar Grace-Smith	Purapurawhetū, When Sun and Moon Collide
Gary Henderson	Peninsula, An Unseasonable Fall of Snow
Witi Ihimaera	Woman Far Walking
Oscar Kightley and Dave Armstrong	Niu Sila, Fresh off the Boat
John Kneubuhl	Think of a Garden
Hone Kouka	The Prophet, Waiora, Home Fires
Greg McGee	Foreskin's Lament
Stuart McKenzie	Transmission
Vela Manusaute	Taro King, My Name is Pilitome

Bruce Mason	The End of the Golden Weather, The Pōhutukawa Tree
Arthur Miller	The Crucible, Playing for Time
Vincent O'Sullivan	Shuriken
Harold Pinter	The Birthday Party, The Hothouse
Jacob Rajan and Justin Lewis	Krishnan's Dairy, The Pickle King
Renee	Wednesday to Come, Pass it On
Maurice Shadbolt	Once on Chunuk Bair
William Shakespeare	Twelfth Night Macbeth
George Bernard Shaw	Saint Joan, Arms and the Man
Stephen Sinclair	The Bellbird, The Bach
Sophocles	Antigone, Oedipus Rex
Tom Stoppard	Travesties, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead
Mervyn Thompson	Children of the Poor, Coaltown Blues
Makerita Urale	Frangipani Perfume
Timberlake Wertenbaker	Our Country's Good, The Love of the Nightingale
Oscar Wilde	The Importance of Being Earnest, Lady Windermere's Fan
Tennessee Williams	The Glass Menagerie, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

Standard: 91518

Domain: Drama Studies

Title: Demonstrate understanding of live drama performance

Version: 3
Number of credits: 4

The format of questions for this standard will be similar to those in previous years.

Candidates will be required to respond to questions on a drama performance they have viewed as a member of the audience in the 2024 calendar year. This may include watching a live drama performance that has been recorded with, or intended for, a live audience. Any viewed performances, whether live or recorded, should provide opportunities for candidates to meet the requirement of the standard at all grade levels.

Candidates will be expected to make connections between the director / designer's concept(s) and the performance seen.

Candidates should be familiar with the use of drama components such as elements, techniques, conventions, and technologies.

For the purposes of this assessment, 'conventions' refers to strategies that are established to make meaning; and 'wider context', as required by the criterion for Achievement with Excellence, could refer to:

- the performance as a whole
- the playwright's purpose
- the nature and/or purpose of theatre as an art form
- the social or historical context.

Questions may cover a combination of drama components such as elements, techniques, conventions, and technologies.