

Drama

Course Code: SDD315115

Practical Assessment

Thank you for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to the examining panels.

Schools/colleges are reminded that provision of parking for examiners is required, particularly during the day when parking is difficult to locate.

Creative Elements

These elements in the requirement for the examination program made the experience for the students and audience complete. The programs had been well thought out and woven beautifully into the execution of the material.

The creative element is not an option. This occurred in one examination centre. It is an examination requirement. Although not assessed the creative elements provide a coherence in the program, links the material and provides an overall performance.

Thank you for the provision of providing details of the linking material in the program as it was extremely clear what was being assessed.

Timing of Programs

Generally these were most accurate. Just be aware that if editing is needed then do so to ensure the time limits are adhered to.

Lighting

Artistic mood lighting can often result in the examiners' abilities to see the candidate. Ensure the lighting makes the assessment process clear. Often the duller lighting, together with bright white lights for markers makes it difficult to see.

Choice of text

Please be mindful of the sensitivity of depicting a character that may have an intellectual or physical disability.

It is advisable not to cast students in cross gender roles i.e. boys playing girls and girls playing boys.

Placement on performance space

Please be mindful of candidates working on the floor too close to the examiner's desk.

Solo choice

Selection of the same solo piece in a class is not recommended.

Please ensure vocal projection provides the candidate with the best opportunity of being heard.

Dramatic Extracts

If the dramatic excerpt choice is a specific genre e.g. absurdism, then it is in the interests of the students to have an understanding of the authorial intention and the genre and text in performance.

Drama Administrative Matters

It is imperative that paperwork is accurate: correct candidate's number and name, correct character put on cover pages. This must be accurate to avoid a situation we experienced this year where the official TASC cover page had the wrong characters against the students' names and the students were assessed in the incorrect roles, resulting in quite a considerable variance in their final result.

A student in any group who is not being assessed, must have this written against their name wherever it appears in the paperwork.

Examiners room

Due to the paperwork involved, it is advisable to provide the examiners with a private room where they can sort through the paperwork and examination sheets prior to entering the exam. Please have all copies of the program in this room for the examiners to begin the process of writing up names and works prior to examination starting.

Written Examination Paper

There was an increase in the number of candidates who chose to write their responses in pencil. It clearly states in the examination booklet to use PEN.

Candidates need to answer ALL aspects of the question.

Ensure all play titles are underlined in responses.

The most competent responses were the ones where the candidates addressed the wording of the questions in their introduction. Some stronger responses were affected when not all parts of the question were addressed e.g. in Question four candidates needed to respond to background research, rehearsal process and final performance. Many did not address all of these.