

AQA A Level Drama and Theatre Studies

AS Level

Unit 1

- Written Paper, 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- 60% of total AS marks, 30% of total A Level marks.
- 100 marks.
- Examined in January and June.

Section A - response to live theatre

- Response to live theatre seen during the course.
- There will be many opportunities to see live theatre, and we will discuss it in lessons afterwards and build model answers.
- You can take in a page of notes for EACH play seen, but all must be handed in.
- We will prepare these notes in lessons and for homework.

Section B – study of a set play

A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen

- 19th century Naturalism, a ground-breaking play that caused much reaction in its day. You will answer one question from a choice of two. One will be acting-based, the other direction or design. The aim is to interpret drama from a performance perspective.
- You will be given a character and a section from which to take the scenes, and a focus to which you have to respond in detail to show your knowledge of the play and of theatre.

Unit 2

- Practical.
- 40% of total AS marks, 20% of total A Level marks.
- 80 marks.
- Examined in June (moderation period lasts from February to May).

Content

- Group performance of an extract from a published play.
- Assessment includes preparatory and development work and supporting notes.
- Marked by the centre and moderated by AQA.

Assessment Objectives:

- **AO1** – demonstrate the application of performance and/or production skills through the creation and realisation of drama and theatre.
- **AO2** – demonstrate knowledge and understanding of practical and theoretical aspects of drama and theatre using appropriate terminology.
- **AO3** – interpret plays from different periods and genres.
- **AO4** – make critical and evaluative judgments of live theatre.

A2 Level

Unit 3

Section A – study of a set play

- 30% of A Level
- 2 hour written paper
- 100 marks
- Study of two further set plays:

Lady Windermere's Fan by Oscar Wilde

- Answer one question from a choice of two looking at production; questions are focused on the interpretation of the plays from a performance perspective (acting, directing, technical/setting).

Our Country's Good by Timberlake Wertenbaker

- The single compulsory question is to be answered from the perspective of a director, working with designers and actors, to communicate an interpretation of the section to an audience.

Unit 4

Presentation of Devised Drama

- 20% of A Level
- Practical performance
- 80 marks
- Performance by a group of devised (majority is self-created) drama. The assessment also includes candidates' preparatory and development work and supporting notes.
- Available in June only – moderation February–May