

GCSE (9–1)

Qualification Fact Sheet

DRAMA

What does the new specification offer?

This exciting new specification for GCSE (9–1) Drama gives students the opportunity to explore the subject from a range of perspectives by devising their own, original work; by bringing to life the work of a playwright; as theatre reviewers, developing their own thoughts on what makes drama and theatre successful; and as creative artists building and bringing a character to life through exploration and rehearsal.

Students can choose to be assessed as either a performer or as a designer in the non-exam components. This means that students have the choice to complete the course as a performer, as designer or through a combination of both roles.





The designer option (lighting; sound; set; costume) has its own marking criteria and specification requirements, ensuring students are well supported in taking these options, and are credited for the individual skills needed for each discipline.

The qualification is made up of three components. There are two non-exam assessments (60% of the overall qualification) and one exam assessment (40% of the overall qualification).

Theory and practical work will be integrated throughout the course and all texts studied should be explored practically.

What to expect in the non-exam assessments (60% of qualification)

Component 1: Devising Drama 60 marks	Component 2: Text Performance 60 marks
<p>Students will create a devised performance in groups. They will be able to select a starting point from a range of stimuli provided by the exam board.</p> <p>They can choose to work as a performer or designer in this component.</p> <p>Performances will be between 5 and 15 minutes, depending on the size of the group.</p> <p>All performances will be supported by a portfolio which is evidence of the students' devising process and can be made up of a combination of writing, images, observation notes and artefacts.</p> <p>40 marks: For the evidence in the portfolio 20 marks: For the final performance.</p>	<p>Students will study a text chosen by the centre.</p> <p>Students will take a part in two performances of two extracts from the text. They can work as a performer or designer in this component.</p> <p>Performance lengths will vary according to the size of the group. In this unit students can work individually, or in a group of up to 6. The time range is between 2 and 15 minutes, depending on the size of the group.</p> <p>Students must present at least one performance as part of a group.</p> <p>Students will be required to produce an accompanying concept document which outlines their intentions for the performance.</p> <p>20 marks: Interpretation of the text and creating an intention for performance 40 marks: For the demonstration of the chosen theatrical skill in the final performances.</p>

What to expect in the exam assessment (40% of qualification)

The exam component will be assessed at the end of the qualification and will be **1 hour and 30 minutes** in length. Students will have to complete two compulsory sections.

Section A 50 marks	Section B 30 marks
<p>Students will be asked about preparing and performing a text. They will draw on the experience of studying a whole text during the course from a list set by the exam board.</p> <p>The questions will focus on the process of creating and developing a performance, working as a director, performer and designer, as well as the performance of a character from the text.</p>	<p>This section asks the students to review a performance they have seen on their course.</p> <p>They will be primarily assessed on their ability to analyse and evaluate, but will also be marked on their accurate use of subject specific terminology.</p>



How is the qualification marked?

There are four key assessment objectives for the qualification that assess candidates at different points of the creative process:

- When creating and rehearsing;
- When reflecting on how meaning has been communicated on stage;
- When demonstrating their theatrical skill in performance;
- When evaluating their own work or the work of others.

<p>AO1: Create and develop ideas to communicate meaning for theatrical performance</p> <p>(20%)</p>	<p>AO3: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed</p> <p>(30%)</p>
<p>AO2: Apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance</p> <p>(30%)</p>	<p>AO4: Analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others</p> <p>(20%)</p>

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