



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

# To be given to candidates on or after 1 September in the academic year before certification

## GCSE (9–1) Drama

### J316/01/02 Devising drama

Cohort: 2021–2023



#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Choose **one** stimulus. Develop your drama from the stimulus you have chosen.
- Work in groups to create your drama. In your group you may have between **two** and **six** performers, plus **one** designer per design role.
- Your portfolio of evidence must be your own work.

#### INFORMATION

- The total mark is **60**.
- This document has **16** pages.

#### ADVICE

- Time for preparatory work and assessment time is decided by your centre.

## Guidance for Candidates

There are three sections to this assessment.

- Section 1 is the exploration of the chosen stimulus and creating your initial ideas.
- Section 2 is the creation and development of your devised drama in your chosen role as either a performer or a designer, including analysing and evaluating the work in progress.
- Section 3 is your final performance and evaluation.

Your devised performance must be developed based on **one** stimulus from this paper. There are 10 stimuli in this paper, one of each of the following:

- |                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| • Historical event   | • Photograph |
| • Instrumental music | • Poem       |
| • News article       | • Prose      |
| • Painting           | • Sculpture  |
| • Person/People      | • Song       |

You will work in groups of between **two** and **six** performers plus **one** designer per design role, although you are **not** required to have designers in your group.

During the exploratory stage you will work collaboratively to create the narrative or concept for your performance. After this you will focus on your chosen role while rehearsing, refining, amending and evaluating the performance ready for an audience, justifying why you have made changes to the devised piece. You will perform the devised piece, communicating the meaning to the audience, reflecting your adaptation of the stimulus. After the performance you will write an evaluation of your own performance. The devised work must be your own original work in response to the chosen stimulus.

You must create a portfolio to support the development of your devised piece, outlining the realisation of the adaptation of the selected stimulus. The portfolio should be structured in three sections.

Section 1 – Research and initial ideas.

Section 2 – Creating and developing drama including analysing and evaluating the work in progress.

Section 3 – An evaluation of your final piece of devised drama.

**Please note:** There are many sources of information available for the stimuli to help you prepare material for your portfolio. You should **not** contact artists, composers or writers directly as part of your research. Instead refer to information available online and from other sources.

The recommended maximum length of a portfolio should be:

- 20 sides of A4 which may include:
  - notes, sketches, diagrams, scripts, storyboards, photographs and annotations.

**OR**

- 12 minutes of recorded presentation which may include:
  - video diary/video blogs, recording of performance activities created through the devised performance and slides/titles with audio commentary.

**OR**

- 2000 words of continuous prose.

A portfolio can also contain a combination of the above. The length of each format should be in proportion to the assessed work it represents. The following combinations are shown as examples of combined portfolio formats.

- 10 sides of A4 with 1000 words of prose.
- 10 sides of A4 with 6 minutes of recorded presentation.
- 6 minutes of recorded presentation with 1000 words.
- 7 sides of A4 with 1400 words of prose.
- 14 sides of A4 with 700 words of prose.
- 7 sides of A4 with 8 minutes of recorded presentation.
- 14 sides of A4 with 4 minutes of recorded presentation.
- 4 minutes of recorded presentation with 1400 words of prose.
- 8 minutes of recorded presentation with 700 words of prose.
- 7 pages of A4 with 4 minutes of recorded presentation and 700 words of prose.

Appendices are **not** permitted.

You must also create a final, refined realisation of your devised drama with a clear link to the selected stimulus. The final assessed performance **must** be video recorded.

If you are working with or as a designer, you should work collaboratively in rehearsals. If you are working without designers, you are expected to realise a minimal amount of lighting, sound, set and/or costume as is necessary for the performance.

### **Performer requirements (AO2)**

The minimum time for a devised performance is 5 minutes and the maximum time is 15 minutes.

If you are a performer, you should ensure that the roles within the performance are demanding enough to allow sufficient demonstration of evidence that meets the marking criteria.

## Designer requirements (AO2)

If you are a designer, you must work with a performance group whose performance meets the minimum times set out above.

You can choose from **one** of the following design roles:

- lighting
- sound
- lighting and sound (combined) \*
- set (including props and multimedia staging)
- costume (including hair, makeup and masks).

\* Lighting and sound (combined) **cannot** be chosen where a lighting and/or sound designer is part of the performance group.

You should ensure that the content and structure of the devised drama contains sufficient design demands to allow the demonstration of evidence to meet the marking criteria.

The minimum requirements for you as a designer are as follows:

- Lighting – a full lighting design for the performance with a cue sheet detailing lanterns used and the differing lighting states. A minimum of **six** lighting changes evident in the performance. Lights up and lights down are **not** included in this number. Discuss with appropriate staff the selection, rigging and plotting of the lights. During the performance you must operate the lighting desk.
- Sound – a full sound sheet with original and copied cues leading to a finalised sound CD or MP3 playlist on a memory stick for use in the final performance. A minimum of **six** sound cues evident in the performance. During the performance you must operate the sound desk.
- Lighting and sound (combined) – a combination of the requirements for sound and lighting which are approximately equal in weighting and which total **six** cues in performance.
- Set – a scale model and a detailed ground plan of the set. Sourcing set (and props) for the performance and supervision of the construction of set where appropriate. You must dress the set ready for performance and one set design must be realised in the final performance.
- Costume – a final design of:
  - **either one** full costume including hair and makeup detail which is sourced and realised in performance
  - **or one** full costume including mask(s) which is sourced and realised in performance
  - **or two** costumes for characters (excluding hair, makeup or masks) which are sourced and realised in performance. These costumes can be for different characters or different costumes for one character.

**Stimulus 1**  
**Historical event**

**1** Helen Duncan

One of the last people to be convicted under the Witchcraft Act of 1735.



In 1944, Helen Duncan, a Scottish medium, was sentenced to nine months in prison for witchcraft when she said she had visualised the sinking of HMS Barham.

**Stimulus 2**  
**Instrumental music**

- 2** *Arrival of the Birds & Transformation* by The Cinematic Orchestra and the London Metropolitan Orchestra.

**Stimulus 3**  
**Newspaper article**

**3** *Man changes name to Celine Dion after having far too much to drink.*

**A 30-year-old man decided to change his name to Celine Dion after having a few too many glasses of wine.**

Thomas Dodd – otherwise known as Celine – had the idea while watching one of the Canadian singer's concerts on YouTube over Christmas.

He thought it would be a great idea to pay £89 to take her name officially, but completely forgot about it when the official Deed Poll documents landed on his doorstep on Wednesday.

Once you receive your papers, you need to sign them before an independent witness and inform your relevant record holders before your name is considered changed.

But Thomas has no plans to go back on his decision and hopes it might get him backstage at one of his idol's future gigs.

But he admits he is dreading telling his bosses about his new moniker and that his mum has not seen the funny side of it.

Thomas, a hospitality manager from Tamworth, Staffordshire, explained how he came up with his idea after getting drunk while watching Celine Dion perform a show in Las Vegas on YouTube.

He said: 'I had been planning to go and see her in Vegas but obviously couldn't due to Covid.

'So I've become a bit hooked with watching her concerts on YouTube as it's the next best thing. I'm a bit obsessed with her and always have been.

'But I don't know why it crossed my mind to change my name to hers. I can't really remember the night and forgot all about it the next day.

'I remember watching the Celine Dion concert of her performing in Vegas and that is about all I can remember. I wish I knew what happened but it was a hazy night.

'I then came home from work on Wednesday and there was a big white envelope on the floor by the door which said "do not bend".

'It looked quite important and it was full of all these official certificates. As soon as I read it I had to sit down in the kitchen.

'I was like 'this can't be real' but it's as real as it gets. I just don't remember doing it.

'I'm a bit of a Celine Dione superfan and obviously just thought this would be hilarious – but my mum doesn't think so, she wasn't best pleased.



**Stimulus 4**  
**Painting**

- 4 *Ohhh...Alright...* by Roy Lichtenstein (1964)





Stimulus 5  
Person

5 Jaylen Arnold



At the age of 8, Jaylen set out to help children who like him had experienced bullying. His campaign and motto 'Bullying No Way!' is now known throughout the world.

**Stimulus 6**  
**Photograph**

- 6 *Untitled (Beer Dreams)* from *Twilight* series (1998) by Gregory Crewdson



**Stimulus 7**  
**Poem****7** *Text* by Carol Ann Duffy (2005)

I tend the mobile now  
like an injured bird

We text, text, text  
our significant words.

I re-read your first,  
your second, your third,

look for your small xx,  
feeling absurd.

The codes we send  
arrive with a broken chord.

I try to picture your hands,  
their image is blurred.

Nothing my thumbs press  
will ever be heard.

**Stimulus 8**  
**Prose**

**8** *Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard (2015).

Almost everyone looks forward to the first Friday of each month, when work and school end early. But not me. No, I'd rather be in school, learning nothing in a classroom full of children.

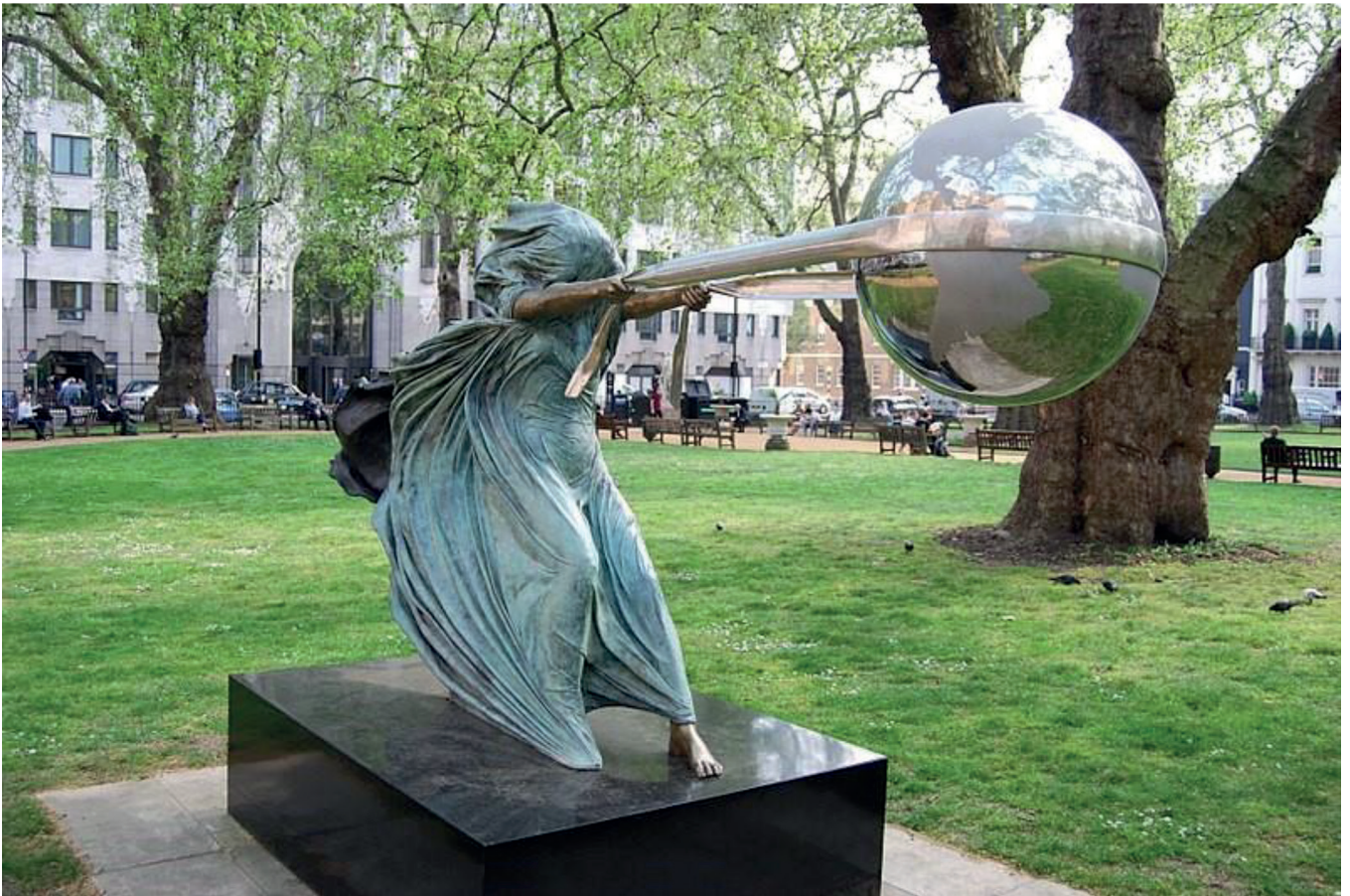
Not that I'll be in school much longer. My eighteenth birthday is coming, and with it, conscription. I'm not apprenticed, I don't have a job, so I'm going to be sent to the war like all the other *idle* ones. It's no wonder there's no work left, what with every man, woman, and child trying to stay out of the army.

My brothers went to war when they turned eighteen, all three of them sent to fight Lakelanders. Only Shade can write worth a lick, and he sends me letters when he can. I haven't heard from my other brothers, Bree and Tramy, in over a year. But no news is good news.



**Stimulus 9**  
**Sculpture**

**9**    *The Force of Nature II* (2011), London, by Lorenzo Quinn



**Stimulus 10**  
**Song**

- 10** *Don't be so hard on yourself* by Jess Glynne/Thomas Barnes/Peter Kelleher/Benjamin Kohn/  
Wayne Hector (2015)

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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Stimulus 1 – Historical event: image of Helen Duncan taken from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Stimulus 2 – Instrumental Music: 'Arrival of the Birds & Transformation' by The Cinematic Orchestra and the London Metropolitan Orchestra, 2012. Under licence to Domino, [www.dominomusic.com](http://www.dominomusic.com).

Stimulus 3 – Newspaper Article: 'Man changes name to Celine Dion after having far too much to drink' by James Hockaday, 1 January 2021. © Metro News, [www.metro.co.uk](http://www.metro.co.uk).

Stimulus 4 – Painting: Roy Lichtenstein 'Ohhh... Alright...', 1964.

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Stimulus 9 – Sculpture: Lorenzo Quinn, 'The Force of Nature II', 2011. Image taken from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Stimulus 10 – Song: Jess Glynne/Thomas Barnes/Peter Kelleher/Benjamin Kohn/Wayne Hector, 'Don't be so hard on yourself', 2015.

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