

INTRODUCTION:

- **36%** of the final qualification [120 marks]
- **Assessed externally** by WJEC.
- You will be assessed **either** as an **actor** or as a **designer**.

TASK:

Respond creatively to a stimulus set by WJEC.

- Device a dramatic piece using the techniques of a recognised **practitioner** or **theatre company** [45 marks].
- Perform an extract from a text in a **theatrical style** different and contrasting with the style used in the devised piece. [45 marks].
- Write a **process and evaluation report** [30 marks].
- Write an **evaluation** of the performance [15 marks].

DESIGNER

You can have up to **2** designers per group, but each designer must contribute **different design skills**:

- lighting
- sound
- sets and props
- costume, hair and make-up

ACTOR:

Perform the two pieces as part of a group of between 2 and 4 actors. This will be assessed by an examiner from WJEC.

Complete a **Process and Evaluation Report** based on the performance work over the course of the following week.

2 actors	5 – 10 minutes
3 actors	7 – 12 minutes
4 actors	9 – 14 minutes

TEXT

- Read the text carefully – ensure that you understand your character, his backstory, his motivation, and his character journey throughout the chosen extract.
- Make a list of specific **techniques** or **concepts** that are characteristic of this particular style and ensure that the techniques and concepts are **obvious** in your performance.
- Also choose the **type of stage** that you will be using for your performance – experiment with a promenade theatre, in the round stage, traverse, and thrust stages in order to challenge theatrical conventions.

DEVISED WORK:

The devised work will emerge from the stimulus. The first step will be to look again at the ideas you discussed after making your initial choice of stimulus and to begin thinking about what story or event you find interesting and would like to research further.

- Ensure that you choose a **recognised practitioner** or **theatre company** that is completely different to the style you adopted for the text work. It is crucial that you take advantage of the opportunity to show what you are able to achieve as an actor or designer. This is an opportunity to demonstrate your skills and performance ability, so choose carefully.
- Start the research process – watch Youtube videos etc on the techniques of the practitioner or theatre company and make detailed notes on the techniques, the theatrical purpose, and the style to ensure that these are evident in your devised work.
- Don't sit for hours working on a script. It's better to experiment and improvise ideas in practice – very often, this is where the best ideas tend to develop.
- Also choose the **type of stage** you will be using for your devised performance – experiment with a promenade theatre, and with in the round stage,, traverse, and thrust stages in order to challenge theatrical conventions.
- Try to use **two completely different stages** for the two performances.

TOP TIPS FOR THE ACTOR

- Read widely to find a text that will be both challenging and interesting to perform.
- Choose the style/practitioner/theatre company carefully, making sure that the text and the devised piece are completely different so that you can demonstrate your versatility as an actor.
- Create a rehearsal schedule and give yourself a goal for each lesson. Make sure you keep to the task at hand at all times.
- Organise the work to ensure that the timing is correct and that the extract works in terms of the chosen style/practitioner/theatre company.
- Ensure that you rehearse with props and the stage-type from the beginning.
- Don't be over-sensitive if scenes have to be cut or an idea changes/develops. The process of creation is what's important – experiment, take risks, and challenge yourself.
- Ensure that the technique/style is evident in the work you produce.
- Keep a notebook of the process – how has it developed and moved ahead? What needs to be modified? Are the techniques obvious? THE PROCESS is what's important – don't be afraid to state your honest opinions about the process and the development.

TOP TIPS FOR THE DESIGNER

- The designers have to contribute fully to the creation process within their respective groups. Make sure that you're a part of all the decisions that are made.
- Ensure that the techniques/style is obvious in the work.
- Keep a notebook of the process – how has it developed and moved ahead? What needs to be modified? Are the techniques clear? THE PROCESS is what's important – don't be afraid to state your honest opinions about the process and the development.
- As the designer, you will take part in a 5-10 minute Viva with the examiner in which you will have the opportunity to discuss your ideas further and display your materials. **The Viva will not be assessed.**
- Following the exam, you will complete a **Process and Evaluation Report** based on the preparation work and the performance. You will have a week to complete it.

INFLUENCE OF LIVE THEATRE

Live theatre is a crucial component of the Drama course and it follows that as you go to see productions you will develop new ideas in terms of style, practitioners, theatrical companies, characterisation, movement on stage, successful cooperation, costumes, sets, props, different kinds of stages etc. Draw on the ideas you have seen and experienced in different productions in your own performance. It is crucial that you make use of these influences in your work and you will be expected to discuss these in your report.