

'AS and A' Level Drama Overview

AS- Unit 1: Exploration of Drama and Theatre

- 40% of AS and 20% for the overall A level
- Internally assessed by teacher with a sample being sent off to the moderator.
- The students will be expected to study two contrasting play texts in a practical way. At least one of the plays must be explored in the light of a recognised theatre practitioner.
- The students will be expected to write up their lessons and produce a set of Exploration notes (3000 words)
- The students are also required to see a live theatre performance and submit a written evaluation (1000 words).

AS- Unit 2: Theatre Text in Performance

- 60% of AS and 30% for the overall A level
- Externally assessed, an examiner will come in during the Spring term and assess their practical pieces.
- There are two sections to this Unit. Section A requires students to learn and perform either a monologue or a duologue. They are also required to submit a written performance concept of their interpretation (500 words)
- Section B requires students to present a group performance of a scripted play.

A2- Unit 3: Exploration of Dramatic Performance

- 40% of the A2 mark and 20% of the overall A level.
- Internally assessed by the teacher with a DVD of the performance being sent to the moderator.
- This unit requires students to create a unique and original piece of theatre. The students will be given a variety of stimuli and they will need to select an idea and devise their own piece of theatre for performance.
- Students will need to produce a Supporting Written Evidence Document (SWED- 3500 words) which will address the research and development of their piece of theatre as well as evaluate their final performance.

A2- Unit 4: Theatre in Context

- 60% of the A2 mark and 30% of the overall A level.
- This unit is a written exam- duration 2 ½ hours.
- Unit 4 is broken down into three sections, A, B and C. Section A and B requires the detailed study of one set playtext (from a choice of three set by the exam board). Students will need to explore the chosen play from the viewpoint of a director working with a company preparing the script for performance.
- Section C requires the detailed study of one prescribed historical period of theatre development. Students need to see a live production of the chosen play and evaluate the performance elements that contributed to their understanding of the director's interpretation in this performance and compare it to the original performance conditions.