



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

GCSE (9–1) Drama

J316/01/02 Devising drama

Sample stimulus paper

Version 0.12

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

Cohort: 20XX – 20XX



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INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS

- Time given to candidates for preparatory work and assessment time can be determined by centres.
- The marking criteria for this component are in the specification.
- This paper is for candidates examined in 20XX.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

- There are 10 stimuli in this paper.
- Your group's devised drama work must develop from **one** of the stimuli as a starting point for your performance.
- You may choose any one of the ten stimulus materials.
- All stimuli are available to both performers and designers.
- You must work in a group of between two and six performers and can have up to one designer per role in your group.
- Your portfolio must contain your own unaided work and be completed individually.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this component is **60**.
- This document consists of **15** pages.

Guidance for Candidates

This paper is for candidates who are completing component 05 'Drama: performance and response' in the June 20XX session.

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 development of your devised drama in your chosen role as either a performer or a designer.
- Section 3 is your final performance and evaluation.

Your devised performance must be 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 with a maximum of **one** designer per role per group. 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 and amending the performance ready for an audience. 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 creation of your devised piece. 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.

The recommended maximum length of a portfolio should be:

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

Appendices are not permitted.

You must also create a final, polished realisation of your devised drama. The final assessed performance must be video recorded.

Performer requirements (AO2)

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

Performers should ensure that their roles are demanding enough to allow sufficient demonstration of evidence that meets the marking criteria.

Designer requirements (AO2)

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.

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

The minimum requirements for designers 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 **6** lighting changes evident in the performance. Lights up and lights down are **not** included in this number. Discuss with appropriate staff the 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 **6** 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 **6** 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 Salem Witch Trials

Trial of Martha Corey

Friday March 11, 1692 was a day of fasting and prayer in Salem. During the day the community's minister, the Rev. Samuel Parris, asked the girls to reveal another witch. They did, and the accusation shocked those who heard it for it implicated Martha Corey (Goodwife Corey) a new but upstanding member of the congregation. Immediately a delegation was sent to the Corey farm to interview the accused in the hope of clearing up this discrepancy. Martha Corey's sarcastic response to the accusation disheartened the delegation who immediately called for her arrest. Her trial was the scene of much agitation. In the courtroom Martha's accusers writhed in agony as they were forced by an unseen power to mimic the witch's every movement. When Martha shifted her feet the girls did also, when Martha bit her lip the girls were compelled to bit their own lips, crying out in pain. They saw the specter of a black man bending over the accused and heard the drum beat calling the witches to convene on the meetinghouse lawn.

Stimulus 2
Instrumental music

2 Our Story in One Minute

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZSt9tm3RoUU>

Stimulus 3
News Article**3** The Burglar and the Dog*i*

Stimulus 3 is a news article titled 'The Burglar and the Dog' from The Metro. This item has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

A copy of the extract is available at <https://metro.co.uk/2015/02/01/burglar-feeds-dog-and-makes-a-cup-of-coffee-iduring-incredibly-relaxed-break-in-5044814/>

The extract opens with 'A couple returned to their home recently to find they had become the victims of a bizarre break-in' and finishes at 'police say they are investigating the incident'.

For other examples of this type of question please see our past papers, available through our website and Interchange. Alternatively, see our ExamBuilder platform for the full list of relevant mock questions.

Stimulus 4
Painting

4 *Starry Night* by Vincent Van Gogh



Stimulus 5
Person**5** Amelia Earhart - dead or alive?

Amelia Earhart was the first female pilot to fly across the Atlantic Ocean. She mysteriously disappeared while flying over the Pacific Ocean in 1937. There are many conspiracy theories surrounding Earhart's disappearance. Some believe the plane ran out of fuel and it crashed off the coast of Howland Island. Others believe she landed on an uninhabited Island in the South Pacific where she would ultimately die.

Stimulus 6
Photograph

6 Eyesore or eye pleaser?



Stimulus 7
Poem

7 *Annabel Lee* by Edgar Allan Poe

It was many and many a year ago,
In a kingdom by the sea,
That a maiden there lived whom you may know
By the name of Annabel Lee;
And this maiden she lived with no other thought
Than to love and be loved by me.

I was a child and *she* was a child,
In this kingdom by the sea,
But we loved with a love that was more than love—
I and my Annabel Lee—
With a love that the wingèd seraphs of Heaven
Coveted her and me.

And this was the reason that, long ago,
In this kingdom by the sea,
A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling
My beautiful Annabel Lee;
So that her highborn kinsmen came
And bore her away from me,
To shut her up in a sepulchre
In this kingdom by the sea.

The angels, not half so happy in Heaven,
Went envying her and me—
Yes!—that was the reason (as all men know,
In this kingdom by the sea)
That the wind came out of the cloud by night,
Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.

But our love it was stronger by far than the love
Of those who were older than we—
Of many far wiser than we—
And neither the angels in Heaven above
Nor the demons down under the sea
Can ever dissever my soul from the soul
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;

For the moon never beams, without bringing me dreams
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;
And the stars never rise, but I feel the bright eyes
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;
And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side
Of my darling—my darling—my life and my bride,
In her sepulchre there by the sea—
In her tomb by the sounding sea.

Stimulus 8
Prose**8** *The Jungle Book* by Rudyard Kipling

The Law of the Jungle, which never orders anything without a reason, forbids every beast to eat Man except when he is killing to show his children how to kill, and then he must hunt outside the hunting-grounds of his pack or tribe. The real reason for this is that man-killing means, sooner or later, the arrival of white men on elephants, with guns, and hundreds of brown men with gongs and rockets and torches. Then everybody in the jungle suffers. The reason the beasts give among themselves is that Man is the weakest and most defenceless of all living things, and it is unsportsmanlike to touch him. They say too -- and it is true -- that man-eaters become mangy, and lose their teeth.

Stimulus 9
Sculpture

9 *The Tripping Policeman* by Tom Frantzen



Stimulus 10
Song

10 *The Monster* by Eminem (featuring Rhianna)¹

<http://www.eminem.com/lyrics/marshall-mathers-lp-2/monster-feat-rihanna>

¹ Both the clean and explicit versions are acceptable as the starting point for this stimulus

Web links for starting points

Stimulus 1 <http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/salem.htm>

Stimulus 3 <http://metro.co.uk/2015/02/01/burglar-feeds-dog-and-makes-a-cup-of-coffee-iduring-incredibly-relaxed-break-in-5044814/>

Summary of updates

Date	Version	Details
August 2021	0.12	Updated copyright acknowledgements. Stimulus 3 News Article The Burglar and the Dog. Text redacted due to third party copyright permissions.

Copyright Information:

Stimulus 1: The Salem Witch Trials 1692, EyeWitness to History, www.eyewitnesstohistory.com (2000), accessed Apr 2015.

Stimulus 2: Our Story in 1 Minute, melodysheep, 30 Oct 2012. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZSt9tm3RoUU>

Stimulus 3: Adapted Text from O. Wheaton, Burglar feeds dog and makes a cup of coffee during incredibly relaxed break-in, 1 February 2015, <http://www.metro.co.uk>.

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Stimulus 6: © Cofiant Images / Alamy Stock Photo. www.alamy.com Reproduced with permission.

Stimulus 7: Annabel Lee, Edgar Allen Poe, The Works of the Late Edgar Allan Poe, vol. II, 1850

Stimulus 8: Rudyard Kipling, The Jungle Book, Macmillan, 1894.

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Stimulus 10: © 2013 Aftermath Records.

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