

DRAMA

COURSE DETAILS

Exam Board: AQA
Specification Code: 8261
Website: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/drama/gcse/drama-8261/specification>

The subject content details the knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to develop throughout the course of study.

The subject content for GCSE Drama is divided into three components:

- Understanding Drama
- Devising Drama
- Texts in Practice

Guidance is also provided on the theatrical skills students will need to work on. In the practical components students may specialise in performing, lighting, sound, set, costume and/or puppets.

SETTING ARRANGEMENTS

Drama is taught in mixed ability groups.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Component 1: Understanding Drama

What's assessed?

- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
- Study of one set play from a choice of six
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

How it's assessed:

- Written exam: 1 hour and 45 minutes
- Open book
- 80 marks in total
- 40% of GCSE

This component is marked by AQA.

Questions:

- Section A: multiple choice (4 marks)
- Section B: four questions on a given extract from the set play chosen (44 marks)
- Section C: one two part question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production (32 marks)

Component 2: Devising Drama

What's assessed?:

- Process of creating devised drama
- Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer or designer)
- Analysis and evaluation of own work

How it's assessed:

- Devising log (60 marks)
- Devised performance (20 marks)
- 80 marks in total
- 40% of GCSE

This component is marked by teachers and moderated by AQA.

Component 3: Texts in Practice**What's assessed?**

- Performance of two extracts from one play (students may contribute as performer or designer)
- Free choice of play but it must contrast with the set play chosen for Component 1

How it's assessed:

- Performance of Extract 1 (20 marks) and Extract 2 (20 marks)
- 40 marks in total
- 20% of GCSE

This component is marked by AQA.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Students are expected to research the social, historical and cultural context of the plays they are studying. They must also write scripts, learn words and complete essays.

MRS H OPENSHAW