

Candidate 1 evidence

Consider a performance you have taken part in during your course as either an actor or in a production role.

Tick (✓) the box to indicate your role.

Actor Lighting Costume Set

Props and set dressing Sound Make-up and hair

1. (a) State the main theme/issue of your drama. Justify your answer. 2

The main theme of my drama was class difference. This is because conflict and tension is created between the wealthier girls and the poorer scholarship student, Daisy. The treatment and cruelty towards Daisy explores the theme of class.

- (b) Identify an appropriate target audience based on the theme/issue you stated in (a). Justify your answer. 2

An appropriate target audience would be girls aged 10 to 18. This is because the drama is set in an all girls boarding school, and so these people would be able to relate to the issues in the ~~school~~^{school} and the characters portrayed close to their own age.

1. (continued)

- (c) In what way would you expect this target audience to react to the main theme/issue identified in (a)? Justify your answer. 2

I would expect the audience to be upset about Daisy's treatment due to her lower class. This is because Daisy is a sympathetic character and the audience does not believe she should be treated cruelly or with inferiority.

[Turn over

2. Describe one rehearsal activity or practical task you carried out to prepare yourself for this drama.

2

I used hot seating, where I answered a series of questions in character. This helped me to understand how my character, Sybil, felt about other characters and the motivations behind her decisions. This allowed me to portray her more realistically.

3. (a) Identify the genre of your drama. Give a reason for your answer.

2

The genre of my drama was comedy. This is because we used normal old-fashioned situations and used over-the-top acting to create a humorous atmosphere. We made ~~light~~ light situations seem important ~~to~~ for comedic effect.

- (b) Describe the ways in which you helped to highlight the genre of your drama.

If you were an actor you should include comments on your performance concepts.

OR

If you were in a production role you should include comments on your design concepts.

4

My character, Sybil, ~~was~~ spoke in a South Hampton English accent. This made her appear posh and helped to create humour by mocking English upperclass. Sybil also gesticulated by flicking her hair when annoyed. This showed she was arrogant and was funny as she appeared spoilt. Sybil also had an upright posture. This showed she was confident and created humour as she contrasted with Daisy's shyness. My character also spoke with a loud volume. This showed she felt she was superior, which was comedic as she spoke loudly about others to purposefully create attention.

4. (a) Consider the work of one other drama student during a performance. Your answer must be based on a performance they have taken part in during the Drama course.

Describe the mood and/or atmosphere of their drama. Justify your answer.

2

Mel created an ~~exotic~~^{creepy} atmosphere for her drama. This is because ~~she~~ it was based in a mental asylum and the actors, including Mel, portrayed their characters to build tension and made the drama eerie and creepy.

4. (continued)

- (b) Describe the ways the drama student you identified in (a) helped to highlight the mood and/or atmosphere in the drama.

If they were an actor, you should comment on their performance concepts.

OR

If they were in a production role, you should comment on their design concepts.

4

Mel spoke in a high pitched voice, this gave the impression of her being unstable and highlighted the creepy atmosphere. She had a closed body language by hugging her knees and bending forward. This made her appear scared and contributed to the creepy atmosphere. Mel also did not maintain eye contact whilst speaking. This emphasised her character's insanity and furthered the creepy atmosphere. She also spoke with a quiet volume. This made her appear timid and created tension which highlighted the creepy atmosphere.

[Turn over

Choose one of the following stimuli to develop ideas for a drama with 2 or more characters. The drama must be suitable for a live performance.

Stimulus A

'What's done cannot be undone'

William Shakespeare

Stimulus B

Martin opened his eyes fully. At first he looked straight ahead. He could see clearly but he could not see much, only the hospital ceiling. He closed his eyes once more; now he started a body check. He moved his toes, and tensed his calf muscles and his thigh muscles. He moved his whole left leg no more than a quarter of an inch and then his right leg. It was the smallest of movements but all he wanted to know was that he was in control. By now there was more movement in his fingers, and again, a very small movement of his arms satisfied him. He breathed in deeply and his chest rose. Now Martin opened his eyes again, trying as he did so to raise his eyebrows but there was absolutely no feeling there. He tried to smile but he could feel only hard skin which he seemed unable to control. He tried to move his jaw from side to side but the skin seemed inflexible and his jaw wouldn't move.

At this point Martin knew something terrible had happened to his face. His heart pounded hard in his chest. He shifted his eyes to the left and saw his father standing over him.

'Are you OK, son?'

Martin felt that he was using up all his strength just sending blood around his body and opening his eyes – he certainly didn't have the strength to speak. But his mind was beginning to work and he did think that *Are you OK, son?* was a strange question. He had very little idea of how he really was. His mother came into sight on his right side.

Stimulus C



Tick (✓) the box to indicate which stimulus you have chosen to write about.

Stimulus A Stimulus B Stimulus C

You should now READ ALL of the following questions to guide your answers on your chosen stimulus.

You may use drawings and/or diagrams to illustrate any of your answers if you wish.

The space below is provided for any rough working and will not be marked.

Mother - Crystal - Once an ~~poet~~ aspiring photographer. Gave up dream to raise children. Abused by her husband. Unstable

Father - Alan - Drunk and abusive.

Son - Theo - forced to look after his mum and little sister. Only 12 but man of family.

Daughter - Tammy - too young and innocent to understand what happens in her family. Only 7.

5. (a) State the structure of your drama.

1

The structure of my drama would be non-linear.

(b) Explain why you chose this structure with reference to your drama.

2

I chose this structure as it gives more context and background on the family. It contrasts the happiness at the beginning of the marriage with abuse later on, ^{with flashbacks} ~~or~~. It also allows audience to see how the children are effected when they are adults ^{using flash forwards} ~~at~~. Non-linear also allows the audience to see the disastrous consequences of domestic abuse [Turn over on difference members of the family via ~~an~~ split staging and soliloquys.

6. (a) Select one character in your drama and identify their motivation. 1

The character Theo is motivated to help his little sister and get his mother to safety, as he loves them.

- (b) Describe a moment in your drama when this character reveals their motivation. 2

Theo reveals his motivation when he sees his mum after she is abused by his father. In the moment he looks after her and begs her to leave Alan so Tammy is safe and she can pursue her photography career.

6. (continued)

(c) Think again about this character's motivation.

Describe two rehearsal activities that would help the actor develop an understanding of this character's motivation. Give reasons for your answer.

4

The actor ~~is~~ who would do hot seating when he answers a series of questions in character. This would help the actor to understand the reasons behind Theo's decision and his background. This would allow the actor to better understand Theo and how ~~his~~ he motivated to help his family. The actor would also research cases of domestic abuse and the effect on children. This would allow the actor to understand how children have been affected in real situations and would make the actor understand Theo better. This would make the portrayal of Theo more accurate. [Turn over

Another activity is ~~the actor~~ character cards when the actor write about their character. This would allow the actor to better know Theo's personality and background. The actor would therefore understand his motivations and relationships with his family better and also give a more accurate portrayal.

7. (a) Choose another character from your drama and describe their personality.

2

Tammy is the 7 year old daughter of Alan and Crystal. Tammy is young and innocent so does not understand what is happening. She loves her mum and Theo but is scared of her Dad. She is very shy but enjoys playing with Theo and her toys.

- (b) Describe the way an actor would use two of the voice terms below to highlight this character's personality.

Emphasis Tone Pace Volume

2

Tammy would speak ^{with} ~~at~~ a fast pace. This would show she is scared and afraid when speaking to her Dad, showing she is shy. She would also speak with a happy tone when she is with Theo. This would show she loves Theo and is comfortable and feels safe with him.

- (c) Describe the way an actor would use two of the movement terms below to highlight this character's personality.

Facial expression Eye contact Body language Posture

2

Tammy would ~~not~~ not maintain eye contact with her Dad to show she has a shy personality. She would also have an upset ~~frustrated~~ ^{confused} expression by frowning her brows and pursing her lips when she finds her mum crying. This shows her innocence and lack of understand of issues in her family.

8. Explain in detail how you would use one of the production areas below to help portray two characters from your drama. Justify your answer.

Costume Props Sound Make-up and hair 4

Character 1 I would use a pre-recorded sound effect of a door slamming. This would show that Alan is angry and drunk. This creates tension in the drama as Alan's arrival means Crystal is likely to get hurt.

Character 2 I would use a live sound effect of a ~~chair~~ table being knocked over by Crystal. This would show she is ~~that~~ distracted and unstable due to the injuries she is suffering from. This creates sympathy for her character as she is likely to be fired for knocking over furniture.

9. (a) Identify a key moment in your drama. Explain your answer.

2

A key moment in my drama is when Tammy and Theo come home to find all the photographs smashed and Crystal unconscious. This is a key moment as it is the climax and height of tension.

This is a turning point as Crystal is now seriously injured and Theo is desperate

- (b) Describe one convention you would use during this key moment to highlight its importance. Justify your answer. ^{to have}

2

I would use a flashback in this scene, to when the photographs were taken. This would contrast the happiness of the family with the shock of Crystal's injuries and highlights the devastation of the key moment.

10. (a) State the type of staging you would use to present your drama. 1.

I would use end-on ~~off~~
staging for my drama.

- (b) Describe two advantages of using this type of staging for your drama. 4

One advantage is that the fourth wall can be broken when Tammy addresses the audience as narrator. This allows the audience to feel connected to the drama and gives personal insight to the character's emotions. Another advantage is that set can be stored and moved on and off stage from the wings. This means the ~~places~~^{setting} of the drama can change to reflect the times when the family were happy or sad. This staging is also effective as it gives the illusion of looking into the family's home from the outside. This ~~scene~~ shows the effect and [Turn over] consequences of domestic abuse on a family.

11. (a) State the main theme/issue explored throughout your drama.

1

The main theme explored in my drama is the disastrous consequences domestic abuse can have on every member of a family.

- (b) Think again about the main theme/issue identified in (a).

As a designer, describe the ways in which you would use two production skills to highlight this main theme/issue to the audience. Justify your answer.

6

Production skill 1 I would use a profile spotlight on Crystal to emphasise how alone she feels when her husband and children leave her, ^{highlighting} ~~the~~ the effect of abuse. I would also use a blue gel when Tammy is crying to show her extreme sadness and how the domestic violence affects young children. I would also use a projection of the back screen showing a dark street to show the isolation and emphasise the dangers facing the family. I would have a red gel when Alan arrives to show he is angry and the violence to family is going to suffer from.

11. (b) (continued)

Production skill 2 I would use the background soundscape ~~of~~ of a storm when Alan arrives home. This would mimic the building tension and the danger Alan brings with ~~his~~ ^{his} violence. I would have ~~any~~ ^a live sound effect of a slap when Alan hits Crystal. This emphasises the injuries she suffers due to domestic abuse. I would also have a ~~voice~~ fade-out of ~~it~~ a pre-recorded sound effect of Tammy laughing outside. This shows how ~~the~~ ^{the} fighting among her parents affects Tammy and her ability to have a normal childhood.

[Turn over for next question

