

Candidate 2 evidence

MARKS

SECTION 1 — 20 marks

Attempt ALL questions

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) Identify a suitable target audience for your drama. Justify your answer.

2

The target audience for my drama would be teenagers aged 14-19 of either gender as the drama is about major societal issues and so would be used to educate them on these issues, in hopes of them therefore taking action to help those facing them and be more understanding of the fact that you don't know everything going on in someone's life.

MARKS

1. (continued)

- (b) Describe two reactions you wanted the audience to have during your final performance. Justify your answer.

4

I would want the audience to feel surprised as from the beginning of the drama, you cannot tell that each of the characters are going through something so horrible, for example, in Scene 4, when it is revealed that Cody ^{Harrogate} is working multiple jobs on top of school in order to make money for his family. I would also want them to feel angry at the treatment of the characters as they are all innocent, ~~for~~ for example, in Scene 3 when Lucy James is slapped by her stepfather. I would also want them to feel sympathy for the characters as they cannot break the cycle they are each in so are constantly suffering, for example in Scene 5, when Stephanie Collins refuses to eat all day as a result of her untreated anorexia. Finally, I would want them to feel happy prior to all of these negative emotions, as at the beginning of the drama, each character appears to be happy and enjoying life when with their friends.

[Turn over

MARKS

1. (continued)

- (c) Evaluate the effectiveness of your individual contribution to the final performance.

If you were an actor you should include comments on your performance concepts and their impact on the audience.

OR

If you were in a production role you should include comments on your design concepts and their impact on the audience.

4

My performance concept was to portray the role of Lucy Collins, a 16 year old girl being physically abused by her stepfather. Overall, I think ^{in the final performance} my performance concept was successful. Lucy was supposed to be happy, chatty and bubbly when around her friends, so, in the performance I used open body language by using an upright posture, relaxing my muscles and smiling plus using a loud volume and joyful tone when ^{to show she was content and relaxed} ~~speaking~~ ^{speaking}. Lucy was also to be terrified of her stepfather whenever ^{or mentioned} he was around. To portray this in the performance, I used ~~the abused~~ ^{closed} body language by tensing my shoulders, crossing my arms and looking at the floor plus speaking with a quiet volume, fast pace and nervous tone to show that Lucy was ~~was~~ scared. Overall, I think my performance concept was successful as ^{said she could see the shift in my} character's personality, and she cried when Lucy covered away from her stepfather.

MARKS

2. Consider the work of one other drama student during the rehearsal process for a performance:

Describe two practical activities they carried out to prepare for their performance. 4

One activity ^{Jessica} ~~that~~ carried out was hotseating. Hotseating is when you sit in a chair ^{is character} and are questioned by your peers to find out more about the role you are portraying. During this, she learned that her character, Stephanie Collins, was afraid of her mother as she put too much pressure on her, so during the rehearsal process, she tried out using different quieter volumes and anxious tones whenever her mother was around. Another activity Jessica carried out to prepare was completing a character card. This is when you answer questions about your character in writing to find out more information about them. During this, she learned that Stephanie has battled with anorexia and bad body image for a couple of years, which led to Jessica suggesting during rehearsals that ~~we~~ we add into the script that at the beginning of Scene 5, Stephanie body checks herself in the mirror.

[Turn over

MARKS

SECTION 2 — 40 marks

Attempt ALL questions based on your chosen stimulus

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

Stimulus A

‘You’re only given a little spark of madness. You mustn’t lose it. No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world’.

Robin Williams

Stimulus B



[Turn over

MARKS

Stimulus C

'It's only a dream,' Conor said to himself in the back garden, looking up at the monster silhouetted against the moon in the night sky. He folded his arms tightly against his body, not because it was cold, but because he couldn't really believe he'd tiptoed down the stairs, unlocked the back door and come outside.

He still felt calm. Which was weird. This nightmare — because it was surely a nightmare, of course it was — was so different from the other nightmare.

No terror, no panic, no darkness, for one thing.

And yet here was a monster, clear as the clearest night, towering ten or fifteen metres above him, breathing heavily in the night air.

from 'A Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness

MARKS

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.

Scene	Time/Place	Action
1	An office in Glasgow 14/5/22 19:00	James McAdam is bored and lonely working his job at an insurance company. That day, he receives a call from an unknown number claiming they have his note and want to meet up, but say nothing else. James is confused, but agrees.
2	Seamill beach West Kilbride 12/3/12 17:00	Flashback to 10 years earlier, when James writes an old fashioned letter message in a bottle and throws it into the sea as his last hope for finding a companion in life.
3	Hope Cove Devon 14/5/22 19:00 15:00	Flash forward to just before the phonecall, when Sophie Wilson finds the bottle when doing a beach clean up just outside of her house. She debates whether or not to call it, thinking the number must be outdated, but she decides to anyway.
4	James's hotel Sophie's house James's house 19/5/22 16:00	James Both get ready to meet up with one another. Split stage alternating between the two, showing the audience that they are both nervous but excited too, thinking it could be fate and each other could be 'the one'.
5	Seamill beach West K. lbride 19/5/22 18:00	They meet at the same spot where James threw the bottle in and have a picnic on the sand. They instantly hit it off as they find out they have so much in common. The scene ends with them kissing, and agreeing to go out again.

MARKS

4. (a) From the list below, tick (✓) what would be the main purpose of your drama.

Entertain Communicate a message Explore a theme or issue

Give a reason for your answer, with reference to your drama.

1

The main purpose would be to communicate the message that
and happiness
love¹ can be found even when you least expect to find it/even
in the darkest of places, as it shows James, who has given up all
*See additional space

- (b) Describe a key moment in your drama which highlights this purpose.

2

A key moment that highlights this would be in Scene 3, when
Wilson
Sophie finds the message in a bottle. This highlights this as it is
the first sign to the audience that things could work out for
McAdam
James after all after, in the lead up to that point, there
was very little or no hope.

MARKS

4. (continued)

- (c) Describe two reactions you would like the audience to have when watching this key moment. Justify your answer.

4

One reaction I would like the audience to have would be to feel ^{hopeful} ~~surprised~~. This is because I would like them previously to ^{and also like him} feel sympathy for James' so at the key moment, I'd like them to ^{hope} ~~see~~ that Sophie is his true love and all works out between them so ~~that~~ he can be happy again. I would also like the audience to feel surprised. This is because the message in a bottle has travelled so far for so long, so I'd like them to be shocked at the fact that it's still intact, and hopefully also see this as a sign that James and Sophie will work out.

[Turn over

MARKS

5. (a) Identify the main character in your drama.

Give a reason for your answer.

2

The main character in my drama is James McAdam.
This is because, ^{at} ~~the~~ the beginning of the drama, the events unfold from his perspective, and he is revealed to the audience as being a protagonist and a good guy but someone in need of help, making them heavily invested in his story and therefore making him ^{the} main focus.

- (b) Describe the feelings this main character has towards one other character in the drama.

2

James McAdam has romantic and grateful feelings towards Sophie Wilson. He feels happy and grateful that she has passed his message and decided to give him a chance. More importantly however, he feels love and sincere romantic affection for Sophie, seen especially in Scene 5 when he leans in and kisses her at the picnic.

5. (continued)

MARKS

- (c) Describe the ways in which the actor playing the main character could use voice and movement to communicate these feelings.

4

The actor playing ~~speak~~ James could use a quiet volume, sincere tone and slow pace ^{for voice} when speaking to Sophie about his writing.

He message in a bottle to show ~~her~~ his gratitude and joy at her finding it and then having the opportunity to meet up. They could then use an open body language such as upright posture, and relaxed muscles, -pl-s move with a regular walking pace and natural hand gestures to show his comfort in her company and they could finally use a direct eye contact with the actress playing Sophie to enhance this idea that he is in love with and feels affection for her.

[Turn over

MARKS

6. (a) Think about a scene from your drama which the actors may find difficult to perform.

Describe what happens in this scene.

2

The actors may find Scene 5 a difficult scene to perform. In this scene, Sophie and James meet for the first time on the beach where James sent out the message in the bottle to see. The conversation starts rather forced and with a lot of small talk but they soon discover they have a lot in common. The scene ends with them kissing and agreeing to go out again.

- (b) Explain the reason(s) why the actors might find this scene difficult to perform.

2

They may find this scene difficult to perform as they would need to initially show awkwardness and tension between the characters, not only in the dialogue but in their voice and movement too. This may be difficult as the actors will be rather familiar with each other at this point, so will need to imagine their relationship was more forced. The largest difficulty however may be as they must then face this tension into a comfortable, relaxed and joyful atmosphere by the end of the scene in the lead up to them both realising they have feelings for each other. This may be difficult as the change needs to be gradual and not instant as the actors need to try to make it natural and not forced.

MARKS

6. (continued)

- (c) Describe two rehearsal activities that could be used to help the actors to overcome these difficulties. Justify your answer.

4

Rehearsal activity 1 One rehearsal activity the actors could use to overcome these difficulties is hotseating. Hotseating is when you sit in character and are questioned to find out more about your character. This could help them overcome these difficulties as they could discover the things specifically that they have in common and the ways in which they found out they shared these common interests.

Rehearsal activity 2 Another rehearsal activity the actors could use is writing in role. This is when you write something as your character (e.g. a letter or diary entry) in order to find out more about them. This could help them to overcome these difficulties as they may learn the depths of the feelings they have for one another so that they have more emotions to play with on stage.

[Turn over

MARKS

7. Describe the ways in which you would use two conventions in your drama.

4

Convention 1 One convention I would use in my drama would be a
flashback. This is when the drama shifts backwards in time in order
to show past events. I would use this ^{in scene 2} to show the event of
Jones throwing the bottle into the sea to depict to the audience
his loneliness and compare it to the first scene, to also show
the deterioration of his happiness in the 10 yrs since he wrote the message.

Convention 2 Another convention I would use would be a split stage.
This is when the stage is split 2⁺ times to show different locations
at the same time. I would use this in Scene 4 ~~to show~~
when the two are getting ready for their first meet up ^{to show} ^{the audience}
the similarities in their thought processes and how they
share common excitement and worries, though they don't know it.

MARKS

8. (a) Describe the mood and/or atmosphere at the beginning of your drama. 2

The mood and atmosphere at the beginning of my drama is bleak and solemn. This is because James is living a lonely, boring life with no joy or entertainment, and the negativity and sadness in his situation is reflected to the audience.

- (b) Describe the mood and/or atmosphere at the end of your drama. 2

The mood and atmosphere at the end of my drama is ^{hopeful} loving and joyful. This is because James and Sophie found each other when there was no hope and have fallen in love, something they thought impossible for them.

[Turn over

MARKS

9. As a designer, describe the ways in which you would use two of the following to highlight the mood and/or atmosphere of your drama.

4

Sound Props Lighting Costume

For ^{Sound} ^{play} I would ~~use~~ a pre-recorded news show at 25% volume to play in the background of Scene 1 to show how dull and monotonous James' life is, therefore highlighting the solemn mood and atmosphere. I would then play a pre-recorded version of 'La Vie en Rose' by Edith Piaf at 75% volume at the end of Scene 5 when Sophie and James kiss to show their love and affection for one another as it is a song very widely associated with romance, which would therefore highlight the loving mood and atmosphere.

For lighting, I would use a flood light to give a full wash of the stage ^{with no gel and} but ^{in Scene 1} at 40% intensity to show how ~~the~~ dark and boring the office James was working in was, again highlighting the bleak mood and atmosphere. I would then use a spotlight centre stage, focused on James and Sophie with a pink gel at the 100% intensity at the end of Scene 5 when they kiss ^{and positive things} as pink is a colour commonly associated with romance, so this would highlight the affectionate and joyful mood and atmosphere.

MARKS

10. (a) Describe the set design for a performance of your drama using end-on staging. 3

I would use flats all around the stage, painted ~~with~~ to show an ~~office~~ blank office wall in a dull colour such as grey to show ~~that~~ how boring Jane's office is in Scene 7. I would then use flats painted bright shades of blue and gold to show the bright beach scene in Scene 5. For set pieces, I would have an old, broken oak wood desk CS with a rickety, dirty blue office chair in Scene 7. Then, in Scene 5, I would have CSR a picnic table which is relatively new, painted
 ↳ see additional space

- (b) Explain one advantage of using end-on staging for your drama. 2

End-on staging is when the audience sit at one side of the stage, and there is no curved arch over it. One advantage of using end on staging would be that there is therefore backstage space. This would be an advantage as it would allow there to be set and props stored hidden backstage (such as the picnic table which doesn't appear until Scene 5) which could be easily accessed by the actors and tech team, plus it would allow the actors not on stage to be hidden from the audience's view but still give them easy access to the stage.

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

MARKS

ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR ANSWERS

3-b) volume, nervous tone and fast pace when talking about or being offered food, plus by making no eye contact with those around her along with furrowing her brows and frowning for facial expressions. This helped to highlight the genre of tragedy as it shows Stephanie's constant mental battles and the fact that she can't be helped as she conceals it from all those around her. Overall, I think that Jessica's performance concept was successful in highlighting the genre as I cried while watching it plus felt a lot of sympathy for Stephanie and the fact that her issue was never resolved.

4a) hope at happiness, have chance bring him to ~~the~~^a person who will show him love and joy.

10. a) a light brown colour and in very good condition in Scene 5 at the beach. Finally, for set dressings, I would have some picture frames and stacks of papers scattered on the desk in Scene 1 in an unorganised fashion to show the chaos and mess of James' life (metaphor). Then, ~~the~~ I would have the picnic basket ~~with~~ which would be lined with red and white checked fabric and hand woven on the outside ~~plus I would have some baskets and spa~~ to show the cute, romantic and positive atmosphere and time at the beach in Scene 5.