

IGCSE DRAMA

UNIT 7: WRITING ABOUT DRAMA

Recommended Prior Knowledge:

This unit builds on the skills acquired in Unit 1 and should therefore be taught after that unit. It may, however, be taught as a long, thin unit alongside Units 2,3,4,5,6,8 and 9.

Context:

It is assumed for this unit that students are familiar with rudimentary dramatic terms and understand both the meaning and practical application of these.

Outline:

This unit is designed to support knowledge and understanding of performance and is not intended to produce material directly designed for assessment. Most of the underpinning knowledge acquired in the unit will ultimately be assessed in Paper 1 although the study of different genres will also improve performance skills for devised work in Paper 2.

Learning Outcomes		Suggested Teaching Activities	Resources
1	Understand the dramatic intention of text	For each piece of text-based performance, students produce a piece of documentation that covers the following points: • historical, social and cultural context of the play • performance conventions associated with the style • identifying a preliminary directorial concept for the extract • opportunities for set lighting and costume design • type of dialogue and opportunities for physical work, characterisation and role • methods of creating pacing, contrast and dynamics • use of space and proxemics.	
2	Understand methods of creating original drama	For each original devised performance, students produce a piece of documentation that covers the following points: • dramatic stimulus used • performance intentions and message • identifying a preliminary directorial concept for the extract • opportunities for set lighting and costume design • opportunities for creating characterisation and role, dialogue and physicality • use of space and proxemics • methods of creating pacing, contrast and dynamics.	
3	Understanding dramatic genres	Students research the varying styles of performance identified in the syllabus as outlined in Unit 5. They should produce a paragraph on each one so that they are familiar with that style or approach. This will enable them to make an informed choice in Paper 2.	