Your notes

GCSE Drama: revision notes

Performing extracts from a play

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Component 3: Texts in practice (AQA)

- You perform (or design for) two **extracts** from one play, chosen by your teacher. It can't be the same play as your set play.
- It is worth 20% of the GCSE, with each **extract** marked out of 20 by a **visiting examiner**.

Component 2: Performing from a text (Eduqas)

- You study two 10-minute **extracts** from one play, then give one performance using parts of both, as an actor or a designer.
- Groups have two to four actors. The piece lasts between 5 and 14 minutes, depending on the size of the group, and each actor must be on stage interacting for at least 5 minutes.
- A **visiting examiner** marks it live, some time between January and May. It is worth 20% of the GCSE (60 marks).
- The play must contrast with your Component 3 set text: a different playwright, time period and theme.
- You give the examiner a note of your **artistic intentions** (about 150 words). It isn't marked, but it shows what you were aiming for.

Preparing the extracts

- Understand the whole play, the context and your character or design brief.
- Make clear artistic choices about interpretation, and communicate the playwright's intentions.
- Learn lines early, rehearse with your group, and polish your vocal and physical skills.
- Designers produce designs and **realise** them for the performance.

On the day

- Warm up physically and vocally, check props and costume, and stay focused.
- Marks reward the level of skill, how well you **realise** your **artistic intentions** and how you communicate with the audience.

Key terms

Extract	A section of a play.
Visiting examiner	An examiner who comes to the school to mark the performance.
Artistic intention	What you aim to communicate through your performance or design.
Realise	To put your ideas into practice in performance.
Warm-up	Exercises to prepare the voice and body.

Quick questions

Cover the answers and test yourself: remembering is what makes it stick.

1. (AQA) How much of AQA GCSE Drama is Texts in practice worth?
2. How many extracts are performed?
3. Can the extracts come from your set play?
4. (AQA) Who marks Texts in practice?
5. What should you understand before rehearsing an extract?
6. What is an artistic intention?
7. Why warm up before performing?
8. When should you learn your lines?

Answers

1. 20%
2. Two
3. No, it must be a different play
4. A visiting examiner
5. The whole play and its context
6. What you aim to communicate through your performance or design
7. To prepare the voice and body
8. Early, so rehearsals can focus on acting

What to do next

Practise 14 questions on this topic

Try 5 exam questions, with mark schemes

Read the lesson, one step at a time

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