VCE Drama and VCE Theatre Studies 2019–2024

Solo and monologue performance examinations

Advice for students and teachers

Summary of performance examination requirements

Students are required to prepare a live performance according to the instructions in the *[2024 VCE Drama solo performance examination](https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/Drama.aspx)* or the [*2024 VCE Theatre Studies monologue examination*](https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/Theatre-Studies.aspx).

The performance will be assessed by a panel of examiners using the assessment criteria published in the examination specifications.

Length of examination

The **Drama solo performance** examination must not last more than 10 minutes:

* 7 minutes to present a single uninterrupted performance
* 3 minutes to set up and pack up.

The **Theatre Studies monologue** examination must not last more than 12 minutes. Each stage of the examination will be timed as follows:

* 2 minutes to set up materials
* 8 minutes for stage 1 and stage 2 of the examination
* 2 minutes to pack up.

No additional time can be allowed.

Student preparation area

Students will have access to a preparation area for up to 30 minutes prior to the start of the examination, where they can warm up, change into costume, apply make-up, etc.

Toilets/changing rooms will be located within or near these areas.

The examination room

Examination rooms vary in terms of size and floor coverings. Rooms may be carpeted or have wooden or tiled floors.

Rooms have normal lighting, which cannot be altered.

Students are not permitted to change their allocated room.

Each room will have 2 chairs and an electrical power point that can be used by students. Tables will not be provided.

Students must ensure that any props, costumes (including footwear such as tap shoes, etc.) or other aspects of their performance do not, in any way, damage the performance space.

**Theatre Studies** students must perform in an area no larger than 5m x 5m. This area will be clearly marked in the examination room.

Assistance for students in the examination centre

One adult person per student will be permitted to enter the examination venue with the student for the purpose of assisting with warm-up and costume changes. This person can be a teacher, parent or other adult person.

This person:

* will be required to sign in and sign out of the examination centre
* must follow all instructions given by VCAA staff
* is permitted to stay with the student in the preparation area only
* is not permitted to move with the student from the preparation area to the examination room and must wait in the reception area until the student has completed their examination
* may return to the preparation room at the end of the examination with the student to assist with costume changing and packing up.

No other persons are permitted to enter the examination venue.

Please note that discussion of any aspect of a performance with assessors is not permitted.

Examination date and centre

The student performance date and examination centre are determined by the VCAA.

All students undertaking assessment will require a **Student Advice Slip** containing the Examination date, time and examination centre.

These will be available on the VASS system of each student’s home school on **29 July 2024**.

Schools must print each individual student’s advice slip and distribute the advice slips to their students.

All requests for changes to examination dates and/or centres must be made via the student’s school.

Materials and equipment

**Two chairs** will be provided in the examination room for students to use in their performance if they wish.

Any additional props, if required, must be carried into the examination space by the student on their own, and within the allotted time. Teachers, parents, assessors, other students and/or performance venue officials **are not permitted** to provide assistance in the moving of props.

All props and set pieces to be used as part of the performance MUST easily fit through a door of standard size, or they cannot be used in the examination.

**Theatre Studies** students may bring a laptop, MP3 player, tablet, mobile phone or similar portable audio device into the examination room to be used as part of the examination. Recording functions must be disabled, phones must be in flight mode and wi-fi functions must be disabled; laptop screens must face the assessors.

**Do not bring these items** into the examination centre:

* actual or imitation weapons of any description. This includes swords, daggers and knives of any type.
* substances deemed hazardous or illegal
* aerosol spray cans
* open flames including candles and matches.

Documents to bring to the examination centre

Students must bring the following to the examination centre:

* their individual Student Advice Slip
* some form of photo identification (a student concession card, learner driver permit, driver licence or school identification card)
* Drama Solo Performance Statement of Intention (3 copies)

OR

* Theatre Studies Monologue Interpretation Statement (1 copy).

All forms will be available on the VCAA website.

Arrival at the examination centre

Arrival time at the examination centre is 30 minutes before the start time of the examination.

VCAA staff will not permit entry to the venue before this time.

In the case of groups of students arriving at a venue with teachers and/or other adults, it is the responsibility of teachers to ensure proper supervision of students outside the venue prior to the allocated time to enter the venue. Whole school groups will not be permitted to enter the venue to await their allocated performance time.

Inside the examination centre, VCAA staff will check the identification documents named above and then escort each student and their ‘assistant’ to the preparation area.

Conduct of the examination

Just prior to the examination commencement time a VCAA staff member will escort the student to the examination room, where the student will wait until invited to enter the room by an assessor.

Once the student enters the examination room, assessors will assist students with any administrative tasks required to ensure the smooth running of the examination. This will include the checking of the Student Advice Slip and all other required documentation.

The student will be allowed time to set up according to the time limits set out above for each study.

An audiovisual recording of all examinations will be made.

The time of the examination will begin from the assessor’s announcement of the candidate number.

If the performance is still in progress when the maximum time has been reached, the assessors will stop the performance.

Students must ensure that the performance space is returned to the same condition as when they entered the examination room. This must be done within the prescribed examination time.

After the examination

At the conclusion of the examination, students may return to the preparation area with their ‘assistant’ to change before leaving the venue.

Students must leave the venue as soon as they have changed. Staying in the venue for any reason once they have changed and packed up is not permitted.