

# VCE Drama

## 2019–2023

### Written examination – End of year

#### Examination specifications

##### Overall conditions

The examination will be sat at a time and date to be set annually by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). VCAA examination rules will apply. Details of these rules are published annually in the *VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook*.

There will be 15 minutes reading time and 1 hour and 30 minutes writing time.

The examination will be marked by a panel appointed by the VCAA.

The examination will contribute 25 per cent to the study score.

##### Content

The *VCE Drama Study Design 2019–2023* is the document for the development of the examination.

All of the key knowledge and key skills that underpin Outcomes 2 and 3 in Unit 3, and Outcomes 1 and 3 in Unit 4, and the content found in the section ‘Terms used in this study’ (pages 9–12), are examinable.

##### Format

The examination will be in the form of a question and answer book.

The examination will consist of two sections.

**Section A** will consist of short-answer and extended-answer questions, and may include questions with multiple parts. Questions will be drawn from Unit 3, Area of Study 3 and will relate to the prescribed plays from the VCE Drama playlist for the year in question. This section may include questions relating to individual plays, from which students will respond to questions relating to **one** play. Alternatively, there may be common questions to which students will respond with reference to **one** play. Section A will be worth a total of 15 marks.

**Section B** will consist of two questions, each of which will have multiple parts and will contain short-answer and extended-answer questions. One question will relate to devised solo performance and the other to devised ensemble performance. Questions will be drawn from Unit 3, Area of Study 2 and Unit 4, Area of Study 1 and Area of Study 3.

In Section B, students will be required to respond to stimulus material. The stimulus material may include illustrations, designs, photographs and other images, and an excerpt(s) of text from one or more playscripts and/or other sources. The stimulus material will not require any knowledge of the sources from which the material is derived. Students will be required to use the stimulus material

and apply their understanding and knowledge of an eclectic range of performance styles and the ways in which play-making techniques, conventions, dramatic elements and production areas can be manipulated in performance. There will be two sets of stimulus material: one for devised solo performance and one for devised ensemble performance. Stimulus material for Section B will be presented in a detachable insert in the centrefold. Section B will be worth a total of 35 marks.

The total marks for the examination will be 50.

Answers are to be recorded in the spaces provided in the question and answer book.

## **Approved materials and equipment**

Pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers

## **Relevant references**

The following publications should be referred to in relation to the VCE Drama examination:

- *VCE Drama Study Design 2019–2023*
- *VCE Drama – Advice for teachers 2019–2023*
- VCE Drama playlist (published annually)
- *VCAA Bulletin*

## **Advice**

During the 2019–2023 accreditation period for VCE Drama, examinations will be prepared according to the examination specifications above. Each examination will conform to these specifications and will test a representative sample of the key knowledge and key skills for Outcomes 2 and 3 in Unit 3, and Outcomes 1 and 3 in Unit 4.

Students should use command/task words, other instructional information within questions and corresponding mark allocations to guide their responses.

A separate document containing a sample examination has been published on the 'Drama – Exams and Examination Reports' page on the VCAA website.

The sample examination provides an indication of the format of the examination, and the types of questions teachers and students can expect until the current accreditation period is over.

The VCAA does not provide answers to sample examinations.