

VCE Theatre Studies 2025–2029

Unit 4 : Presenting an
interpretation

Acknowledgement of Country

The VCAA respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays respect to the ongoing living cultures of First Peoples.



Familiarisation On Demand Videos

- **Video 1:** Overview of Changes
- **Video 2:** Unit 1
- **Video 3:** Unit 2
- **Video 4:** Unit 3
- **Video 5:** Unit 4

VCE Theatre Studies 2025-2029

- Accreditation period of 2025–2029, with implementation commencing in 2025
- Consists of four units, with this video focusing on Unit 4
- Important to note, any changes to this study design will be announced through the VCAA Bulletin, the only source of official information from the VCAA. It is the responsibility of the VCE teacher to monitor these changes/advice regularly.

Overview of Unit 4 – Key changes

2019-2024 Theatre Studies	2025-2029 Theatre Studies
Presenting an interpretation	Presenting an interpretation
Area of Study 1 – Researching and presenting theatrical possibilities	Area of Study 1 – Dramaturgical research and presenting theatrical possibilities
Area of Study 2 - Interpreting a monologue	Area of Study 2 – Interpreting a monologue
Area of Study 3 – Analysing and evaluating a performance	Area of Study 3 – Analysing and evaluating a performance

Unit 4: Key changes

2019-2024 Theatre Studies	2025-2029 Theatre Studies
Presenting an interpretation	Presenting an interpretation
<p>In this unit students study a scene and an associated monologue. They initially develop an interpretation of the prescribed scene. This work includes exploring theatrical possibilities and using dramaturgy across the three stages of the production process. Students then develop a creative and imaginative interpretation of the monologue that is embedded in the specified scene. To realise their interpretation, they work in production roles as an actor and director, or as a designer.</p>	<p>In this unit, students study a scene and an associated monologue from a script. They initially develop an interpretation of the prescribed scene. This work includes exploring theatrical possibilities and using dramaturgy across the three stages of the production process. Students then develop an interpretation of the monologue that is embedded in the specified scene. To realise their interpretation, students work in production roles as an actor and director, or as a designer.</p>

Unit 4: Key changes

2019-2024 Theatre Studies	2025-2029 Theatre Studies
<h2 data-bbox="54 300 627 343">Presenting an interpretation</h2>	<h2 data-bbox="975 300 1545 343">Presenting an interpretation</h2>
<p data-bbox="54 376 937 584">Students' work for Areas of Study 1 and 2 is supported through analysis of a performance they attend. The performance must be selected from the VCE Theatre Studies Unit 4 Playlist. The Playlist is published annually on the VCAA website. Students analyse acting, direction and design and the use of theatre technologies, as appropriate to the production.</p> <p data-bbox="54 627 937 693">In conducting their work in Areas of Study 1 and 2, students develop knowledge in and apply safe and ethical theatre practices.</p>	<p data-bbox="975 376 1864 660">Students' work for Areas of Study 1 and 2 is supported through the analysis and evaluation of a production they attend for their work in Area of Study 3. The production must be selected from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist and must be different from the production they analyse in Unit 3. The playlist is published annually on the VCAA website. Students analyse and evaluate acting, direction and design in the selected production and consider the application of theatre technologies.</p> <p data-bbox="975 698 1864 835">In conducting their work in Areas of Study 1 and 2, students further develop their knowledge and application of inclusive and sustainable (where possible, environmentally sustainable) theatre practices.</p>

Unit 4 Area of Study 1 – Key Changes

2019-2024 Theatre Studies	2025-2029 Theatre Studies
Researching and presenting theatrical possibilities	Dramaturgical research and presenting theatrical possibilities
<p>In this area of study students document and report on dramaturgical decisions that could inform a creative and imaginative interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene.</p> <p>Students outline an interpretation of the scene, focusing on the ways in which the scene could be approached as a piece of theatre, including its place within the script, its specific structure, its characters, its themes, its images and ideas, its possibilities and its theatre styles.</p> <p>Students conduct dramaturgy as the basis for decisions that will inform their interpretation. This includes research into the contexts of the script and influences on the playwright/s.</p>	<p>In this area of study, students document and report on dramaturgical decisions that could inform an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene.</p> <p>Students conduct dramaturgy as the basis for decisions that will inform their interpretation. This includes research into the contexts of the script, influences on the playwright(s), the world of the audience, and possible recontextualisations.</p> <p>Students then outline an interpretation of the scene, focusing on the ways in which the scene could be approached as a piece of theatre, including its place within the script, its specific structure, its characters, its themes, its images and ideas, its theatrical possibilities and its theatre style(s).</p>

Unit 4 Area of Study 1 – Key Changes

2019-2024 Theatre Studies	2025-2029 Theatre Studies
Researching and presenting theatrical possibilities	Dramaturgical research and presenting theatrical possibilities
<p>Students consider how elements of theatre composition and theatre technologies could be employed to realise their proposed concepts and aims. They identify issues relating to safe and ethical theatre practices that they will need to apply in their work to realise their proposed interpretation.</p>	<p>Students consider how elements of theatre composition and theatre technologies could be applied to realise their proposed interpretative concepts and aims. They identify issues relating to safe, ethical, inclusive and sustainable (where possible, environmentally sustainable) theatre practices that they will need to apply in their work to realise their proposed interpretation.</p>

Unit 4 Area of Study 1

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design	2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design
<p>Researching and presenting theatrical possibilities</p>	<p>Dramaturgical research and presenting theatrical possibilities</p>
<p>Outcome On completion of this unit, the student should be able to describe and justify an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene within the world of the play.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Key Knowledge</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dramaturgy and how it informs the interpretation of a script • elements of theatre composition • contexts of the period in which the script is set and was conceived • influences on the playwright/s • the place of the scene within the complete script for the play • ways in which themes, images and ideas can be conveyed within a scene • the structure and plot of, and the character/s in, the script 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dramaturgy and how it informs the interpretation of a script • contexts of the period in which the script is set and possible recontextualisations • influences on the playwright(s) including historical, cultural, social and political • audiences and audience culture • the place of a scene(s) within the complete script for the play • the structure, plot and character(s) in the script • ways in which themes, images and ideas can be conveyed within a scene

Unit 4 Area of Study 1

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Researching and presenting theatrical possibilities

Dramaturgical research and presenting theatrical possibilities

Outcome

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to describe and justify an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene within the world of the play.

Key Knowledge

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">the ways theatre styles and theatre technologies can be appliedtheatrical possibilities including ways in which the script may be interpreted as a piece of theatre for an audiencethe ways meaning can be communicated in the interpretation of a script through use of techniques and processes and safe and ethical working practicesapproaches to justifying creative and imaginative interpretive decisionstheatre language, terminology and expression. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">ways in which meaning and intention can be communicated in the interpretation of a scriptways in which conventions of theatre styles and theatre technologies can be appliedways in which production roles inform an interpretation of a monologueelements of theatre compositiontheatrical possibilities in relation to interpreting the monologueinterrelationships of production rolessafe, ethical, inclusive and sustainable (where possible, environmentally sustainable) working practicesrelevant theatre terminology in relation to chosen production roles, including techniques and processes. |
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Unit 4 Area of Study 1

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

Researching and presenting theatrical possibilities

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Dramaturgical research and presenting theatrical possibilities

Outcome

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to describe and justify an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene *within the world of the play*.

Key Skills

- undertake dramaturgy into the contextual background of the selected script to inform an interpretation of a monologue and its specified scene
- outline theatrical possibilities and describe a possible interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene
- justify dramaturgical decisions that underpin the proposed interpretation, including how the interpretation will convey intended meanings of a monologue, its specified scene and the wider script
- describe work in selected production roles that will be required to realise the proposed interpretation

- **conduct** dramaturgy into the **contexts** of the selected script to inform an interpretation of a monologue and its specified scene
- **describe and demonstrate** theatrical possibilities and possible interpretations of a monologue and its prescribed scene
- justify dramaturgical decisions that underpin the proposed interpretation, including how the interpretation will convey intended meanings of a monologue, its specified scene and the wider script
- describe work in selected production roles that will be required to realise the proposed interpretation

Unit 4 Area of Study 1

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

Researching and presenting theatrical possibilities

Outcome

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to describe and justify an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene *within the world of the play*.

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Dramaturgical research and presenting theatrical possibilities

Key Skills

- orally describe and justify proposed application of theatre styles and use of elements of theatre composition and theatre technologies to enhance the interpretation for performance to an audience
- outline safe and ethical working practices associated with theatre production that will be applied to realise the interpretation
- use theatre terminology and expression appropriately

- *describe the interrelationships of production roles*
- describe and justify *(both orally and in writing)* proposed application of theatre styles, elements of theatre composition and theatre technologies to enhance the interpretation for performance to an audience
- *demonstrate and describe how the interpretation is informed by an understanding of audience and audience culture*
- outline safe, ethical, *inclusive and sustainable (where possible, environmentally sustainable)* working practices associated with theatre production *that will be applied to realise the interpretation*
- apply relevant theatre terminology, *especially pertaining to the two chosen production roles.*

Unit 4 Outcome 1 teaching and learning

Dramaturgical research and presenting theatrical possibilities

Outcome

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to describe and justify an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene within the world of the play.

Teaching and Learning Example

- Initial research into a selection of plays that are of personal interest (consider all contexts that are relevant)
- Refining potential choice to three monologues and undertaking a pros and cons list of each
- Focusing on two monologues, complete a SWOT analysis
- Physical exploration of the character(s) from the two monologues
- Documenting as many interpretations for both monologues that can be thought of
- Selection of the final monologue

Unit 4 Assessment

Outcome 1

Describe and justify an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene within the world of the play

Task 1

A written response that describes and justifies dramaturgical decisions for an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene. The response may be any one or a combination of the following formats:

- an essay
- a report
- responses to structured questions.

Outcome 1 Task 1

Assessment Task example

A Written Report that addresses the following:

1. Explain your overall concept for your selected monologue, with reference to the application of acting and direction OR two design roles. In your response, justify your ideas with reference to specific dramaturgical research you have undertaken.
2. Discuss how theatre style(s), intended meaning and context will be evident in your interpretation.
3. Identify potential difficulties with realising your vision for interpreting the monologue for an audience in an exam room. What preparations will you need to undertake prior to and during the exam to ensure that your work is safe, ethical, inclusive and sustainable?

Unit 4 Assessment

Outcome 1

Describe and justify an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene within the world of the play

Task 2

An oral presentation about the possibilities, intentions and vision for an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene.

Outcome 1 Task 2

Assessment Task example

Oral presentation that addresses the following:

1. Selected examples of dramaturgical research undertaken in the areas of context, style and intended meaning of the monologue, its prescribed scene and the wider script
2. Evidence of applying two elements of theatre composition to their selected monologue (e.g. presenting selected moments from the monologue interpretation)
3. Explanation of how work practices in the planning, development and presentation of the monologue interpretation are safe, ethical, inclusive and sustainable
4. Discussion of one or more interpretative decisions that were informed by a consideration of audience and audience culture.

The oral presentation may be supported by digital technology.

Unit 4 Area of Study 2 – Key Changes

2019-2024 Theatre Studies	2025-2029 Theatre Studies
Interpreting a monologue	Interpreting a monologue
<p>In this area of study students focus on the interpretation of a monologue from a scene contained within a script selected from the VCE Theatre Studies Monologue Examination published annually on the VCAA website.</p> <p>Students select a monologue from the current examination and study the text of the monologue, the prescribed scene in which it is embedded and the complete script from which the scene is derived. Students apply selected production roles and develop an interpretation of the monologue that is informed by a study of the prescribed scene and the complete script and dramaturgy, including the contexts of the play.</p>	<p>In this area of study, students focus on the interpretation of a monologue from a scene contained within a script selected from the VCE Theatre Studies monologue examination published annually in Term 2 on the VCAA website.</p> <p>Students select a monologue from the current examination and study the text of the monologue, the prescribed scene in which it is embedded and the complete script from which the scene is derived. Students apply selected production roles and develop an interpretation of the monologue that is informed by their study of the prescribed scene and the complete script.</p> <p>Their interpretation is informed by dramaturgy they conduct, including the contexts of the play and its intended meanings.</p>

Unit 4 Area of Study 2 – Key Changes

2019-2024 Theatre Studies	2025-2029 Theatre Studies
Interpreting a monologue	Interpreting a monologue
<p>Students make decisions about how the contexts, theatrical possibilities, elements of theatre composition and theatre styles will inform their interpretation of the monologue. Students work in their selected production roles to realise and present their interpretation of the monologue. They consider the interrelationships between acting, direction and design.</p> <p>The interpretation should be prepared for a performance of the monologue by an actor in a single, clearly lit, relatively small space.</p>	<p>Students make decisions about how the contexts, theatrical possibilities, elements of theatre composition and theatre styles will inform their interpretation of the monologue. Students work in their selected production roles to realise and present their interpretation of the monologue. They consider the interrelationships between acting, direction and design areas. They consider safe, ethical and sustainable (where possible, environmentally sustainable) theatre practices.</p>

Information regarding the examination room and conditions will be provided in the examination specifications.

Unit 4 Area of Study 2

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

Interpreting a monologue

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Interpreting a monologue

Outcome

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to interpret and present a monologue through the application of two production roles and orally justify and explain their interpretative decisions.

Key Knowledge

- the text of the monologue, the scene in which it is embedded and the complete script from which the scene is derived
- the contexts of the monologue, the scene and the script, including the original contexts
- possibilities for interpretation of the script
- intended meanings of the monologue, the scene and the script
- the theatre styles implied in the monologue, the scene and the script
- the interconnections between the contexts and the intended interpretation of the monologue, the scene and the script

- the text of the monologue, the scene in which it is embedded and the complete script from which the scene is derived
- the contexts of the monologue, the scene and the script, including knowledge of the original contexts
- intended meanings of the monologue, the scene and the script
- conventions of theatre styles implied in the monologue, the scene and the script
- ways in which an interpretation is informed by dramaturgy
- the interconnections between the original contexts and the intended interpretation of the monologue, the scene and the script

Unit 4 Area of Study 2

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

Interpreting a monologue

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Interpreting a monologue

Outcome

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to interpret and present a monologue through the application of two production roles and orally justify and explain their interpretative decisions.

Key Knowledge

- influences on theatre presentations to an audience
- ways of working in the selected production roles to interpret a monologue in performance, including utilising elements of theatre composition
- ways in which interpretation of scripts is informed by dramaturgy
- ways to orally justify and explain interpretive decisions
- theatre terminology and expressions

- theatrical possibilities for interpretation of the script
- **intended audience and audience culture**
- **the interrelationships of production roles**
- ways of working in the selected production roles to interpret a monologue in performance, including applying elements of theatre composition
- **safe, ethical, inclusive and sustainable (where possible, environmentally sustainable) theatre practices**
- ways to orally justify and explain interpretive decisions
- **relevant** theatre terminology.

Unit 4 Area of Study 2

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Interpreting a monologue

Interpreting a monologue

Outcome

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to interpret and present a monologue through the application of two production roles and orally justify and explain their interpretative decisions.

Key Skills

- conduct dramaturgy and apply discoveries to inform interpretation of the script
- interpret the contexts of the monologue
- convey intended meanings of the monologue
- apply theatre styles to the monologue
- interpret the monologue by working in selected production roles, including applying elements of theatre composition creatively and imaginatively

- conduct dramaturgy and apply discoveries to inform an interpretation of the monologue
- interpret the contexts of the monologue
- convey intended meanings of the monologue
- apply conventions of theatre style(s) to the monologue
- interpret the monologue by working in selected production roles
- describe and demonstrate theatrical possibilities
- describe possible interpretations of a monologue and its prescribed scene

Unit 4 Area of Study 2

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Interpreting a monologue

Interpreting a monologue

Outcome

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to interpret and present a monologue through the application of two production roles and orally justify and explain their interpretative decisions.

Key Skills

- present an interpretation of the monologue
- orally justify and explain interpretive decisions made
- use theatre terminology and expressions appropriately in writing and discussion

- identify intended audiences and describe audience culture
- describe the interrelationships of production roles
- apply elements of theatre composition
- justify and explain interpretive decisions, both orally and in writing
- apply relevant theatre terminology.

Unit 4 Outcome 2 teaching and learning

Interpreting a monologue

Outcome

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to interpret and present a monologue through the application of two production roles and orally justify and explain their interpretative decisions.

Teaching and Learning Example

- Weeks 1-3: Workshop activities in class and dramaturgical activities completed independently with the intention of exploring multiple monologues and their prescribed scenes. Select monologue by end of Week 3.
- Weeks 4-5: Read and annotate play, create character profile(s), experiment with the application of style, consider re-contextualisation possibilities in response to ongoing dramaturgical research.
- Weeks 6-7: Create a rough draft of the monologue interpretation (acting and direction OR two design roles). Experiment with ways in which space, timing, mood and design elements can be manipulated for an intended audience.
- Week 8: Finalise learning lines (actor/directors) and writing script (designers). Present a rough draft of the monologue interpretation to a partner/small audience and use the experience and feedback to establish priorities for refining work.
- Weeks 9-10: Present monologue interpretation at least twice to a range of audiences. Refine monologue interpretation, using feedback and personal evaluation to determine priorities. Complete a draft/final version of interpretation statement.
- Weeks 11-12: Practice the monologue interpretation, together with interpretation statement, ensuring both are fitting within the recommended time limits. Perform for audiences at least twice. Film and evaluate monologue interpretation.

Unit 4 Assessment

Outcome 2

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to interpret and present a monologue through the application of two production roles and orally justify and explain their interpretative decisions.

As was the case in the 2019-2024 Study Design, students do not receive a grade for this Outcome.

Outcome 2 Assessment Task examples

- Evening performance(s) of monologue interpretation – open to school community
- Mock exam, with panel of ‘assessors’ who provide feedback (no grades) prior to VCAA exam
- Lunchtime presentation of monologue interpretation for members of the school community
- Performance of monologue/s to junior Drama and/or Theatre Studies classes
- Presentation of monologue interpretation to subject teacher during class time
- Combined lunchtime or evening performance with VCE Dance/Drama/Music/Theatre Studies students

Unit 4 Area of Study 3 – Key Changes

2019-2024 Theatre Studies	2025-2029 Theatre Studies
Analysing and evaluating a performance	Analysing and evaluating a performance
<p>In this area of study students focus on the analysis and evaluation of the acting, direction and design in a production selected from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Unit 4 Playlist. Students attend a production selected from the Unit 4 Playlist. They study the theatrical style/s evident in the performance and analyse and evaluate how actor/s, director/s and designer/s interpret the script for an audience. They consider the interrelationships between acting, direction and design in the performance. In doing so students consider character/s in the play, how the actor/s interpreted them on stage and the contribution of the director/s to this process.</p>	<p>In this area of study, students focus on the analysis and evaluation of the acting, direction and design in a performance of a production selected from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist. Students attend a production selected from the playlist. They study the theatre style(s) evident in the performance and analyse and evaluate how actor(s), director(s) and designer(s) interpret the script for an audience. They consider the interrelationships between acting, direction and design in the performance. In doing so, students consider character(s) in the play, how the actor(s) interpreted them on stage and the contribution of the director(s) and designer(s) to the interpretation and intended meaning(s).</p>

Unit 4 Area of Study 3 – Key Changes

2019-2024 Theatre Studies	2025-2029 Theatre Studies
Analysing and evaluating a performance	Analysing and evaluating a performance
<p>They study acting skills used by the actor/s to portray the character/s, including facial expression, voice, gesture, movement and stillness and silence. Students develop an understanding of other aspects of acting, direction and design, including artistic vision, focus, the use of elements of theatre composition, the use of verbal and non-verbal language to convey the intended meanings of the play and the establishment and maintenance of the actor–audience relationship.</p> <p>Students’ understanding of the techniques being used by the actor/s, director/s and designer/s is informed by techniques they used to interpret the monologue they selected for Area of Study 1. They refine their understanding of the terminology and expressions associated with analysing theatre productions.</p>	<p>They study acting skills used by the actor(s) to portray character(s) to convey the intended meanings of the play and the establishment, maintenance and/or manipulation of the actor–audience relationship.</p> <p>Students’ understanding of the techniques being used by the actor(s), director(s) and designer(s) is informed by techniques they used to interpret the monologue they selected for Area of Study 1. They refine their understanding of the terminology associated with analysing and evaluating theatre performances.</p>

Unit 4 Area of Study 3

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

Analysing and evaluating a performance

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Analysing and evaluating a performance

Outcome

On completion of this unit, students should be able to analyse and evaluate acting, direction and design in a performance of a production from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist.

Key Knowledge

- the character/s in the production including the function and purpose, objective/s, motivation/s, status and traits
- interpretation of a script in performance by actor/s, director/s and designer/s
- acting skills used by the actor/s to realise character/s, including facial expression, voice, gesture, movement, stillness and silence
- acting and directorial decisions made in interpreting a script and application of direction in the production
- design decisions made in interpreting a script and application of design in the production

- the character(s) in the production, including the function and purpose, objective(s), motivation(s), status and traits
- interpretation of a script in performance by actor(s), director(s) and designer(s)
- acting skills used by the actor(s) to realise character(s), including facial expression, voice, gesture, movement, stillness and silence
- acting and directorial decisions made in interpreting a script and application of acting and direction in the production
- design decisions made in interpreting a script and application of design areas in the production

Unit 4 Area of Study 3

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

Analysing and evaluating a performance

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Analysing and evaluating a performance

Outcome

On completion of this unit, students should be able to analyse and evaluate acting, direction and design in a performance of a production from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist.

Key Knowledge

- application of elements of theatre composition in the production
- focus and verbal and/or non-verbal language to convey the intended meanings of the script
- the establishment and maintenance of the actor–audience relationship
- the interrelationships between acting, direction, design and theatre style/s utilised in the production
- theatre terminology and expressions to analyse and evaluate a theatre production

- application of elements of theatre composition in the production
- focus and verbal and/or non-verbal language to convey character(s)
- the establishment, maintenance **and/or manipulation** of the actor–audience relationship
- **audiences and audience culture**
- the interrelationships between acting, direction, design and theatre style(s) applied in the production to convey the intended meanings of the script
- theatre terminology.

Unit 4 Area of Study 3

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Analysing and evaluating a performance

Analysing and evaluating a performance

Outcome

On completion of this unit, students should be able to analyse and evaluate acting, direction and design in a performance of a production from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist.

Key Skills

- analyse the character/s in the production including function and purpose, objective/s, motivation/s, status and traits
- analyse and evaluate interpretation of a script in performance by actor/s, director/s and designer/s, including the acting, direction, design and elements of theatre composition used and the interrelationships between acting, direction and design
- analyse the use of focus, the acting space and verbal and/or non-verbal language to convey the intended meanings of the script
- analyse and evaluate:
 - the acting, directorial and design decisions made in interpreting a script
 - the application of elements of theatre composition in interpreting a script
 - the use of acting and design in the performance

- analyse the character(s) in the production including function and purpose, objective(s), motivation(s), status and traits
- analyse and evaluate the use of acting skills to convey the characters and intended meanings of the script
- analyse and evaluate the acting, directorial and design decisions
- analyse and evaluate the application of elements of theatre composition
- analyse and evaluate the use of design areas in the performance

Unit 4 Area of Study 3

2019-2024 Theatre Studies study design

Analysing and evaluating a performance

2025-2029 Theatre Studies study design

Analysing and evaluating a performance

Outcome

On completion of this unit, students should be able to analyse and evaluate acting, direction and design in a performance of a production from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist.

Key Skills

- the establishment and maintenance of the actor–audience relationship
- analyse the ways that actor/s, director/s and designer/s work with the theatre style/s utilised in the production
- use theatre terminology and expression appropriately.

- analyse and evaluate the establishment, maintenance and/or manipulation of the actor–audience relationship
- analyse and evaluate the interrelationships between acting, direction, design and theatre styles
- analyse audience culture in relation to the selected performance
- apply relevant theatre terminology.

Unit 4 Outcome 3 teaching and learning

Analysing and evaluating a performance

Outcome

On completion of this unit, students should be able to analyse and evaluate acting, direction and design in a performance of a production from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist.

Teaching and Learning Example

- Prior to attendance at the performance, students become familiar with the plot, characters, themes and style(s) of the play (e.g., by reading scenes and/or the entire play and/or researching the play).
- Prior to attendance at the performance, students discuss ways in which a production of this play might appeal to and/or consider their intended audience/s through contextual or recontextualisation choices.
- After attending the play, students participate in class discussions and make notes about significant choices made by the creative team. Students consider ways in which the elements of theatre composition were applied to shape the performance.
- Students create a mood-board, mind-map and/or graphic organiser to gather information and examples.
- Individually or in pairs, students respond verbally and/or in writing to sample analytical and evaluative questions, using examples from their mood-board/mind-map and/or graphic organiser.

Unit 4 Assessment

Outcome 3

Analyse and evaluate acting, direction and design in a performance of a production from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist.

Assessment

An analysis and evaluation of acting, direction and design and their interrelationships in a performance of a production from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist. This may be in one or both of the following formats:

- an analytical essay
- responses to structured questions.

Outcome 3 Assessment Task examples

Written responses to structured questions

- Students are analysing and evaluating the acting, direction and design of a professional performance
- A range of questions covering key knowledge and skills
- A range of questions representing a variety of command terms
- A range of marks allocated to the questions to represent higher and lower order thinking

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