Assessment Specifications

Scholarship Drama 2024

Published in March 2024

Performance standard:	93304
Assessment method:	Point-in-time assessment task
Assessment format:	Performance
Assessment medium:	Digital submission
Permitted file types:	Video file (AVI, M4V, MP4, MOV, WEBM); document file (PDF)

[Drama subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

Format of the assessment

The candidate will present three solo drama performances, with supporting commentary.

Part One: Text-based performance

The candidate will perform an extract or speech by an established playwright that they have selected and prepared before the examination. (An 'established' playwright is one who is widely published or critically acclaimed – see for example, the list of playwrights prescribed for AS91514.)

The candidate will preface the performance with an introductory analysis presented to camera, in which they should:

- include reference to the genre and significance of the chosen extract
- comment on interpretive choices and performative intentions, supported by relevant drama theory.

No written prompt may be used for the introductory analysis.

The time allowed for Part One is 5 minutes. The candidate is recommended to spend no more than 90 seconds presenting the introductory analysis.

The candidate must also submit an annotated script of the extract.

Part Two: Self-devised performance

The candidate will perform a self-devised piece that they have prepared before the examination, based on their individual exploration of something of relevance to them. The devising process should be supported by research into the work of at least one established drama theorist, practitioner, or company. The self-devised piece must be significantly different to the selection made in Part 1.

The candidate will preface the performance with an introductory analysis presented to camera, in which they should:

- describe the purpose of the performance, what has been explored, and connections to the candidate and the wider world
- explain how research into the methods of their chosen theorist, practitioner, or theatre company has influenced or informed the development of the performance
- detail key moments in the devising process where dramatic material was selected or rejected to refine the performance.

No written prompt may be used for the introductory analysis.

The time allowed for Part Two is 6 minutes. The candidate is recommended to spend no more than 2 minutes presenting the introductory analysis.

The candidate must also submit an annotated script of the extract.

Part Three: Impromptu performance

The candidate will use elements of drama to create and perform a short sequence, within a restricted time, in response to a dramatic prompt. The prompt will be handed to the candidate and retained by them until the conclusion of Part Three.

After the impromptu performance, the candidate will present a concluding reflection to camera, in which they should:

- describe their intentions, and reflect on how these were realised in the performance
- comment on how drama elements were integrated into the performance to create dramatic interest.

They may also reflect on:

- challenges they identified and solutions they found
- the overall structure of their performance, and specific techniques they used to create and shift between characters or to establish place and action effectively.

The time allowed for Part Three is 6 minutes. The candidate will be given 2 minutes to prepare, 2 minutes to perform, and 2 minutes to reflect on the performance.

Submission requirements

The recording of the performances in Parts 1, 2, and 3 must be submitted as a single video file (AVI, M4V, MP4, MOV, WEBM).

The annotated script for Parts 1 and 2 must be submitted as a single document file (PDF). The first page must include the following information (the table may be used as a template):

Candidate's NSN	
Part One: Text-based performance	
Title of play	
Playwright	
Character / role	
Part Two: Self-devised performance	
Title of piece	

Candidates should refer to the *NZ Scholarship Drama Digital External Assessment Submission Instructions* for more information relating to the upload of files.

Further submissions instructions and authenticity requirements will be provided for schools during Term 3, Week 1.

Conditions of assessment

The use of chatbots, generative AI, paraphrasing tools, or other tools that can automatically generate content is not permitted and material generated by these tools should not be submitted as part of the candidate's work.