

Examination Preparation – Section A

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how drama is developed and performed.

Circle – Key words

Underline – Command words

Scribble – down initial responses

Think carefully about how your notes relate to the question

Account for all sections of the question

Read over your answer when you have finished

Do not rush!

Common Command Words

- **Describe** – in detail state the main points, characteristics or features of what the question is asking you
- **Explain** - set out purposes or reasons / make the relationships between things clear / say why and/or how and support with relevant evidence
- **Explore** – Discuss in detail
- **Discuss** – offer more than one opinion or idea about what the question is asking you in a structured way (where appropriate offer different opinions)
- **Compare** - identify/comment on similarities and/or differences
- **Justify** – support a case with evidence such as a quote or reasoning
- **Analyse** - examine in detail to show meaning, and identify elements and the relationship between them
- **Sketch** - make a simple freehand drawing showing the key features, taking care over proportions
- **Identify** – name/select/recognise
- **Reflect** – offer a justified idea with careful thought
- **Develop** – take forward to a more advanced stage or build upon given information
- **Annotate** - Add to a diagram, image or graphic a number of words that describe and/or explain features, rather than just identify them (which is labelling).
- **Contrast** - identify/comment on differences
- **Assess** – make an informed judgement

All good answers must include;

Technical Language – use accurate terminology to describe each aspect of the studied performance text.

Examples from the play – include examples, such as quotes, context or events; that demonstrate understanding of the play and support the point you're making.

Detailed suggestions – give specific examples on how you would perform, design or direct a production that would help the examiner to visualise your ideas.

Effect on the audience – describe the desired effect of a production on the audience, as well as how this effect might be created using theatrical techniques.

Short answers must be concise and full of evidence from the play.

Long answers must go into more detail.

Remember you might get asked to write about an extract of the play you have studied, the play as a whole or to link the extract with the rest of the play.