



DRAMA

ATAR course examination 2019

Marking key

Marking keys are an explicit statement about what the examining panel expect of candidates when they respond to particular examination items. They help ensure a consistent interpretation of the criteria that guide the awarding of marks.

Section One: Analysis and interpretation of a drama text

60% (40 Marks)

Question 1: Director

(20 marks)

You are a director for a production of this drama text.

- (a) Explain **two** choices that you will make to interpret this drama text for an audience. Support your response with direct reference to the drama text. (6 marks)

Description	Marks
For each of the two choices:	
Explains in detail a choice they will make to interpret the drama text for an audience. Provides supporting references to the text.	3
Provides some detail about a choice they will make to interpret the drama text for an audience. Provides relevant references to the text.	2
Provides general comments about a choice they will make to interpret the drama text for an audience. Provides some relevant reference/s to the text.	1
Subtotal	3
Total	6
<p>Suggested answer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is set in 1942, so I will assist the audience to understand this context with large screens with vivid projections to compliment Danny’s descriptions. I would work with the dramaturge to make sure footage is historically accurate and all design choices will reflect the social context of the era. • Proximity of audience and Danny. Danny will assist the audience to understand his journey by directly addressing the audience, close proximity with audience, entering/exiting through the audience. He will be the only actor who will break the fourth wall. • Although the topic is sombre, I will work with the cast to also demonstrate a sense of ‘play’ as the script allows for the versatile use of ensemble. In particular I will work on physical transitions of the actors to convey to the audience the shifts between identifiable characters to ensemble members. 	
Accept other relevant answers	

- (b) Describe how you will direct the actors in Excerpt One using **two** elements of drama to support your interpretation. Support your response with direct reference to the drama text. (10 marks)

Description	Marks
For each of the two elements of drama:	
Describes insightfully how they will direct the actors in Excerpt One to support their interpretation. Provides well-chosen supporting references to the text.	5
Describes in detail how they will direct the actors in Excerpt One to support their interpretation. Provides supporting references to the text.	4
Provides some detail about how they will direct the actors in Excerpt One to support their interpretation. Provides relevant references to the text.	3
Provides general comments about how they will direct the actors in Excerpt One to support their interpretation. Provides some relevant reference/s to the text.	2
Makes superficial comments about how they will direct the actors in Excerpt One and loosely relates to their interpretation. Provides limited or no reference/s to the text.	1
Subtotal	5
Total	10
Suggested answer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symbol The notebook will be the focus of this scene as it is a key symbol in the excerpt. It will be red to juxtapose the neutral and brown tones of the characters' costumes. When the boys get hold of the notebook, it will be passed quickly between characters, all the while Danny tries unsuccessfully to get it back. The movement will be accompanied by gleeful shouts from the boys while Danny is pleading for them to give it back. To show their disrespect for Danny's prized notebook, the boys are to throw the book roughly. • Language As Danny delivers his 'aside' to the audience describing vividly the setting of his childhood, the actor must focus on pace of delivery and emphasis so as to bring this world to life. The actor will directly address the audience and as he does, key words from the text (as if from his notebook) will be projected behind him and appear as if floating. 	
Accept other relevant answers	

Question 1 (continued)

- (c) Describe how you will use a physical approach in rehearsal to assist the ensemble with movement in Excerpt Two. Support your response with direct reference to the drama text. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
Describes in detail how they will use a physical approach in rehearsal to assist the ensemble with movement in Excerpt Two. Provides supporting references to the text.	4
Provides some detail about how they will use a physical approach in rehearsal to assist the ensemble with movement in Excerpt Two. Provides relevant references to the text.	3
Provides general comments about how they will use a physical approach in rehearsal to assist the ensemble with movement in Excerpt Two. Provides some relevant reference/s to the text.	2
Makes superficial comments about how they will use a physical approach in rehearsal to assist the ensemble with movement in Excerpt Two. Provides limited or no reference/s to the text.	1
Total	4
<p>Suggested answer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will use a Jacques Lecoq inspired physical approach to the events of the Movietone newsreel. Since the effect is to be vaudevillian and playful, I will use the seven levels of tension. I will have the actors, working as an ensemble, to choose five key moments during the newsreel to depict through freeze-frame. We will then begin with performing these using the seven levels of tension beginning with exhausted to relaxed to neutral to alert to suspense to passionate and finally tragic. • I will use Anne Bogart’s viewpoints to collaborate with the actors in the rehearsal process. The ensemble will experiment with their bodies in relationship to both other actors and the architecture to physically create the various moments referenced in the newsreel. 	
Accept other relevant answers	

Question 2: Scenographer**(20 marks)**

You are a scenographer for a production of this drama text.

- (a) Describe how you will use symbol to add meaning to Excerpt Two. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
Describes in detail how they will use symbol to add meaning to Excerpt Two.	4
Describes in some detail how they will use symbol to add meaning to Excerpt Two.	3
Provides general comments on how they will use symbol to assist meaning of Excerpt Two.	2
Makes superficial comments about symbol in excerpt Two.	1
Total	4
<p>Suggested answer As Danny states 'It's hard not to see it as a religious experience', I am going to focus on adding meaning to this emotion through the symbol of a cross as he enters the movie theatre space. Danny discusses going up the stairs into the giant golden room. Therefore at the top of the stairs there will be a giant cross glowing from a yellow gel spotlight with an outline of a fallen soldier at the base of the cross. When the movie starts and 'the lights fade like a sunset', the spotlight on the cross will remain on this part of the stage, emphasising its symbolic presence. The contrasting darkness which is only broken when the movie reel of the American soldiers plays, will further emphasise the cross illuminated in the cinema space. This adds further meaning to this space being created as 'a temple to worship American heroes' and the religious experience Danny associates with this nightly ritual.</p>	
Accept other relevant answers	

Question 2 (continued)

- (b) Describe the atmosphere of Excerpt One and Excerpt Three and explain how you will highlight the contrast in atmosphere between these two excerpts. (10 marks)

Description	Marks
Description of atmosphere	
For each of the two excerpts:	
Describes the atmosphere of the excerpt in detail.	2
Provides general comments about the atmosphere of the excerpt.	1
Subtotal	4
Explanation of how to highlight contrast in atmosphere	
Explains in detail how they will highlight the contrast in atmosphere between the two excerpts.	6
Explains in some detail how they will highlight the contrast in atmosphere between the two excerpts.	5
Explains how they will highlight the contrast in atmosphere between the two excerpts.	4
Provides some explanation of how they will highlight the contrast in atmosphere between the two excerpts.	3
Makes general comments about how they will highlight the contrast in atmosphere.	2
Makes superficial comments about the contrast in atmosphere.	1
Subtotal	6
Total	10
Suggested answer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a scenographer of Excerpt One, I would focus on the ‘backyard cricket’ bullies. The soundscape would be crickets and suburbia (cars etc.) and the projections would be of 1940s suburban home and backyard. This would be an iconic Australian setting. Overall, it has a whimsical memory atmosphere of growing up. In contrast, the atmosphere for Excerpt Three is one of the horrors of war – remembrance for fallen soldiers, and also Danny’s coming-of-age relationship with Rose, who is grieving. I would project footage of the Shrine of Remembrance and some sort of slow piano music softly playing in the background. This would highlight the sombre atmosphere of the devastation of war and the loss of life. 	
Accept other relevant answers	

- (c) Provide a diagram, with appropriate annotations, to support each explanation given in part (b). (6 marks)

Description	Marks
For each of the two diagrams:	
Produces an effective diagram with relevant annotations.	3
Produces an appropriate diagram with some relevant annotations.	2
Produces a limited diagram with minimal or no annotations.	1
Subtotal	3
Total	6

Section Two: Australian drama and world drama

40% (26 Marks)

Question 3

(26 marks)

As an actor, you are focusing on psychological and physical approaches to performance.

- Outline a key psychological or physical characteristic you will highlight for your character for each set text. (6 marks)
- Explain how you will use a psychological approach to interpret your character for each set text. (10 marks)
- Discuss how you will use a physical approach in rehearsal to refine your character in a key scene or section of each set text. (10 marks)

Description	Marks
Outline a key psychological or physical characteristic you wish to highlight for your character for each set text	
For each of the two set texts:	
Outlines in detail a key characteristic they wish to highlight for their character.	3
Provides some relevant points about a key characteristic they wish to highlight for their character.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about their character.	1
Subtotal	6
Explain how you will use a psychological approach to interpret your character for each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Explains insightfully how they will use a psychological approach to interpret their character.	5
Explains in detail how they will use a psychological approach to interpret their character.	4
Outlines how they will use a psychological approach to interpret their character.	3
Provides some relevant points about a psychological approach and their character.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about a psychological approach and/or their character.	1
Subtotal	10
Discuss how you will use a physical approach to rehearsal to refine your character in a key scene or section of each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Discusses in detail how they will use a physical approach in rehearsal to refine their character in a key scene or section.	5
Explains in some detail how they will use a physical approach in rehearsal to refine their character in a key scene or section.	4
Outlines how they will use a physical approach in rehearsal for their character in a key scene or section.	3
Provides some relevant points about a physical rehearsal in relation to their character in a key scene or section.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about a rehearsal in relation to their character.	1
Subtotal	10
Total	26

Question 4

(26 marks)

As a dramaturge, you are focusing on forces and the reinterpretation of drama for a contemporary audience.

- Outline a force you will emphasise for each set text. (6 marks)
- Explain how you will advise the creative team to highlight the force for a contemporary audience of each set text. (10 marks)
- Discuss what you will advise the director to do in order to realise the force in a key scene or section of each set text. (10 marks)

Description	Marks
Outline a force you wish to emphasise for each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Outlines in detail a force they wish to emphasise.	3
Provides some relevant points about the force they wish to emphasise.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about a force.	1
Subtotal	6
Explain how you will advise the creative team to highlight the force for a contemporary audience of each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Explains insightfully how they will advise the creative team to highlight the force for a contemporary audience.	5
Explains in some detail how they will advise the creative team to highlight the force for a contemporary audience.	4
Outlines how they will advise the creative team to highlight the force for a contemporary audience.	3
Provides some relevant points about highlighting the force for the audience.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about the force and/or the audience.	1
Subtotal	10
Discuss what you will advise the director to do in order to realise the force in a key scene or section of each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Discusses insightfully what they will advise the director to do in order to realise the force in a key scene or section.	5
Explains in detail what they will advise the director to do in order to realise the force in a key scene or section.	4
Outlines what they will advise the director to do in order to realise the force in a key scene or section.	3
Provides some relevant points about what they will advise the director to do in order to realise the force in a key scene or section.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about forces.	1
Subtotal	10
Total	26

Question 5

(26 marks)

As a lighting designer, you are focusing on performance space and principles of design.

- Outline a key feature of the chosen performance space you will highlight for each set text. (6 marks)
- Explain how the chosen performance space will influence your lighting design choices for each set text. (10 marks)
- Discuss how you will apply **one** principle of design in your specific lighting design in a key scene or section of each set text. (10 marks)

Description	Marks
Outline a key feature of the chosen performance space you will highlight for each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Outlines in detail a key feature of the performance space they will highlight.	3
Provides some relevant points about a key feature of performance space they will highlight.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about performance space.	1
Subtotal	6
Explain how the chosen performance space will influence your lighting design choices for each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Explains insightfully how the performance space will influence their lighting design choices for each set text.	5
Explains in detail how the performance space will influence their lighting design choices for each set text.	4
Outlines how the performance space will influence their lighting design choices for each set text.	3
Provides some relevant points about how the performance space will influence their lighting design choices for each set text.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about the performance space and/or lighting design choices.	1
Subtotal	10
Discuss how you will apply one principle of design in your specific lighting design choices in a key scene or section of each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Discusses in detail how they will apply one principle of design in their specific lighting design choices in a key scene or section.	5
Explains in some detail how they will apply one principle of design in their specific lighting design choices in a key scene or section.	4
Outlines how they will apply one principle of design in their specific lighting design choices in a key scene or section.	3
Provides some relevant points in relation to a principle of design and lighting in a key scene or section.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about design and/or lighting.	1
Subtotal	10
Total	26

Question 6

(26 marks)

As a director, you are focusing on themes and theoretical approaches to performance.

- Outline a key theme you will highlight for each set text. (6 marks)
- Explain how you will use a theoretical approach in rehearsal to explore the key theme of each set text. (10 marks)
- Discuss how you will focus audience attention on the theme in a key scene or section of each set text. (10 marks)

Description	Marks
Outline a key theme you will highlight for each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Outlines in detail a key theme they will highlight.	3
Provides some relevant points about a theme they will highlight.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about theme.	1
Subtotal	6
Explain how you will use a theoretical approach in rehearsal to explore the key theme of each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Explains insightfully how they will use a theoretical approach in rehearsal to explore a key theme.	5
Explains in detail how they will use a theoretical approach in rehearsal to explore a key theme.	4
Outlines how they will use a theoretical approach in rehearsal to explore a key theme.	3
Provides some relevant points about a theoretical approach and a theme.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about an approach in relation to theme.	1
Subtotal	10
Discuss how you will focus audience attention on the theme in a key scene or section of each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Discusses in detail how they focus audience attention on the theme in a key scene or section.	5
Explains in some detail how they will focus audience attention on the theme in a key scene or section.	4
Outlines how they will focus audience attention on the theme in a key scene or section.	3
Provides some relevant points in relation to audience and theme in a key scene or section.	2
Makes superficial comment/s in relation to audience and/or theme.	1
Subtotal	10
Total	26

Question 7

(26 marks)

As a costume designer, you are focusing on form and style and visual elements.

- Outline the form and style of each set text. (6 marks)
- Explain how the form and style will influence your costume design choices for each set text. (10 marks)
- Discuss how you will use **two** visual elements in your costume design choices for a key scene or section of each set text. (10 marks)

Description	Marks
Outline the form and style of each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Outlines in detail the form and style of the text.	3
Provides some relevant points about the form and/or style of the text.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about the form and/or style of the text.	1
Subtotal	6
Explain how the form and style will influence your costume design choices for each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Explains insightfully how the form and style will influence their costume design choices.	5
Explains in detail how the form and style will influence their costume design choices.	4
Outlines how the form and/or style will influence their costume design choices.	3
Provides some relevant points about the form and/or style in relation to their costume design choices.	2
Makes superficial comment/s about the form and/or style in relation to costume.	1
Subtotal	10
Discuss how you will use two visual elements in your costume design choices for a key scene or section of each set text.	
For each of the two set texts:	
Discusses in detail how they will use two visual elements in their costume design choices for a key scene or section.	5
Explains in some detail how they will use two visual elements in their costume design choices for a key scene or section.	4
Outlines how they will use two visual elements in their costume design choices for a key scene or section.	3
Provides some relevant points in relation to visual element/s and costume design for a scene or section.	2
Makes superficial comment/s in relation to visual element/s and/or costume design.	1
Subtotal	10
Total	26

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Question 1(b)** Text under suggested answers based on: Excerpts from: Ryan, M. (2015). Brisbane, p.1 [play script currently re-published as Danny Fisher]. Redfern, NSW: Currency Press.
- Question 2(a)** Text under suggested answer based on: Excerpts from: Ryan, M. (2015). Brisbane, p.26 [play script currently re-published as Danny Fisher]. Redfern, NSW: Currency Press.

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