



# Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination marking key

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2025

Marking keys are an explicit statement about what the examining panel expect of candidates in the practical (performance) examination. They are essential to fair assessment because their proper construction underpins reliability and validity.

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**Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination marking key****100% (70 marks)****Part 1: Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice****45% (29 marks)**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Marks</b>
<b>Criterion 1: Stylistic performance choices</b>	
Integrates stylistic performance choices effectively and creatively in their interpretation to maximise dramatic meaning and audience impact.	6
Demonstrates stylistic performance choices effectively and creatively in their interpretation to enhance dramatic meaning and audience impact.	5
Demonstrates stylistic performance choices with some creativity in their interpretation to create dramatic meaning and audience impact.	4
Uses stylistic performance choices in their interpretation to indicate dramatic meaning and audience impact.	3
Uses some stylistic performance choices in their interpretation.	2
Uses minimal stylistic performance choices.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/6</b>
<b>Criterion 2: Voice</b>	
Integrates voice effectively and creatively to maximise dramatic meaning and audience impact.	6
Applies voice effectively and creatively for dramatic meaning and audience impact.	5
Applies voice with some creativity to create dramatic meaning and audience impact.	4
Uses voice for dramatic meaning and audience impact.	3
Uses voice for some dramatic meaning and/or audience impact.	2
Uses voice for minimal dramatic meaning and/or audience impact.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/6</b>
<b>Criterion 3: Movement</b>	
Integrates movement effectively and creatively to maximise dramatic meaning and audience impact.	6
Applies movement effectively and creatively to enhance dramatic meaning and audience impact.	5
Applies movement with some creativity to create dramatic meaning and audience impact.	4
Uses movement for dramatic meaning and audience impact.	3
Uses movement for some dramatic meaning and/or audience impact.	2
Uses movement for minimal dramatic meaning and/or audience impact.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/6</b>

Description	Marks
<b>Criterion 4: Characterisation</b>	
Performs a creative and highly credible characterisation.	5
Performs a highly credible characterisation.	4
Performs a credible characterisation.	3
Performs a partially identifiable characterisation.	2
Performs a superficial characterisation.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/5</b>
<b>Criterion 5: Application of chosen elements of drama (situation, focus, tension, space, time, symbol, audience, mood and atmosphere)</b>	
Integrates the chosen elements of drama effectively and creatively to maximise dramatic meaning and audience impact. Meets minimum time requirement.	6
Uses the chosen elements of drama effectively and creatively to enhance dramatic meaning and audience impact. Meets minimum time requirement.	5
Uses the chosen elements of drama with some creativity to create dramatic meaning and audience impact. Meets minimum time requirement.	4
Uses the chosen elements of drama to create dramatic meaning and audience impact. Meets minimum time requirement.	3
Uses the chosen elements of drama to create some dramatic meaning and/or audience impact. May not meet minimum time requirement.	2
Uses the chosen elements of drama for minimal dramatic meaning and/or audience impact. May not meet minimum time requirement.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>/29</b>

**Part 2: Monologue 2 – Set Choice**

**35% (23 marks)**

Description	Marks
<b>Criterion 1: Voice</b>	
Integrates voice effectively and creatively to maximise dramatic meaning and audience impact.	6
Applies voice effectively and creatively to enhance dramatic meaning and audience impact.	5
Applies voice with some creativity to create dramatic meaning and audience impact.	4
Uses voice for dramatic meaning and audience impact.	3
Uses voice for some dramatic meaning and/or audience impact.	2
Uses voice for minimal dramatic meaning and/or audience impact.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/6</b>
<b>Criterion 2: Movement</b>	
Integrates movement effectively and creatively to maximise dramatic meaning and audience impact.	6
Applies movement effectively and creatively for dramatic meaning and audience impact.	5
Applies movement with some creativity to create dramatic meaning and audience impact.	4
Uses movement for dramatic meaning and audience impact.	3
Uses movement for some dramatic meaning and/or audience impact.	2
Uses movement for minimal dramatic meaning and/or audience impact.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/6</b>
<b>Criterion 3: Characterisation</b>	
Performs a creative and highly credible characterisation.	5
Performs a highly credible characterisation.	4
Performs a credible characterisation.	3
Performs a partially identifiable characterisation.	2
Performs a superficial characterisation.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/5</b>

Description	Marks
<b>Criterion 4: Application of chosen elements of drama (situation, focus, tension, space, time, symbol, audience, mood and atmosphere)</b>	
Integrates the chosen elements of drama effectively and creatively to maximise dramatic meaning and audience impact. Meets minimum time requirement.	6
Uses the chosen elements of drama effectively and creatively to enhance dramatic meaning and audience impact. Meets minimum time requirement.	5
Uses the chosen elements of drama with some creativity to create dramatic meaning and audience impact. Meets minimum time requirement.	4
Uses the chosen elements of drama to create dramatic meaning and audience impact. Meets minimum time requirement.	3
Uses the chosen elements of drama to create some dramatic meaning and/or audience impact. May not meet minimum time requirement.	2
Uses the chosen elements of drama for minimal dramatic meaning and/or audience impact. May not meet minimum time requirement.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>/23</b>

**Part 3: Improvisation****20% (18 marks)**

Description	Marks
<b>Criterion 1: Voice</b>	
Applies voice to maximise dramatic meaning and audience impact.	4
Applies voice for dramatic meaning and audience impact.	3
Uses voice for some dramatic meaning and audience impact.	2
Uses voice with minimal dramatic meaning and audience impact.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/4</b>
<b>Criterion 2: Movement</b>	
Applies movement to maximise dramatic meaning and audience impact.	4
Applies movement for dramatic meaning and audience impact.	3
Uses movement for some dramatic meaning and audience impact.	2
Uses movement with minimal dramatic meaning and audience impact.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/4</b>
<b>Criterion 3: Role/Characterisation</b>	
Performs a highly credible role/characterisation.	4
Performs a credible role/characterisation.	3
Performs a mostly clear role/characterisation.	2
Performs a superficial role/characterisation.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/4</b>
<b>Criterion 4: Given idea</b>	
Explores and extends the given idea to maximise dramatic meaning and audience impact.	6
Explores and extends the given idea to enhance dramatic meaning and audience impact.	5
Explores the given idea for dramatic meaning and audience impact.	4
Uses the given idea for dramatic meaning and audience impact.	3
Uses the given idea for some dramatic meaning and/or audience impact.	2
Uses the given idea for minimal dramatic meaning and/or audience impact.	1
Does not meet any of the above specified performance levels for this criterion.	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>/6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>/18</b>