



Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination requirements

2026

Acknowledgement of Country

Kaya. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) acknowledges that our offices are on Whadjuk Noongar boodjar and that we deliver our services on the country of many traditional custodians and language groups throughout Western Australia. The Authority acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We offer our respect to Elders past and present.

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Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination

This document provides general advice to teachers, candidates and parents/carers/guardians about the Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination.

Where a Year 12 ATAR course has both a written and a practical examination, students are required to sit for both of these examinations. Students who do not sit an ATAR course examination and do not have an approved sickness/misadventure application for that course will not have the grades for the pair of units completed in that year contribute to the calculation of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).

The practical (performance) examination for the Drama ATAR course will be held during the period from **Saturday, 26 September to Sunday, 4 October 2026** (Saturdays, Sundays and the public holiday included) at a metropolitan location and, if required, major country locations. Candidates must be available to complete their practical (performance) examination during this time. A *Personalised practical (performance) examination timetable* (Appendix 1) for each candidate will be made available from **Tuesday, 8 September 2026**. Examination timetables can be downloaded by schools/providers via SIRS and by students from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) [student portal \(https://studentportal.scsa.wa.edu.au/\)](https://studentportal.scsa.wa.edu.au/). Country candidates must sit their practical (performance) examination at the Authority's designated examination centre.

For the Drama ATAR course examination, the weightings are:

- Written examination 50%
- Practical (performance) examination 50%

1. Reporting achievement

Teachers are responsible for ensuring the practical (performance) examination requirements are met and candidates are adequately prepared. Teachers must ensure they are using the current syllabus. Any further advice on matters related to the syllabus or assessment will be published in the [7to12 Circulars \(https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/circulars/7to12-circulars\)](https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/circulars/7to12-circulars) on the Authority website.

Teachers should also refer to the ATAR course examination information published in Section 6 of the [WACE Manual \(http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/wace-manual\)](http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/wace-manual) on the Authority website.

For all ATAR courses with a practical examination, for the pair of units, schools are required to submit to the Authority a:

- school mark out of 100 (weighted for each component)
- school mark out of 100 for the written component
- school mark out of 100 for the practical component
- grade for the completed pair of units.

2. Candidates with an injury, illness or disability

Candidates who have a permanent disability or condition that could prevent them demonstrating their knowledge, understanding or skills under standard examination conditions may apply to be assessed with equitable access adjustments.

Application is made through the school on the form available from the [Application and Order Forms page \(https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/forms/forms\)](https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/forms/forms) on the Authority website. Adjustments requested for the written examinations do not apply to the practical examinations. Requests for adjustments in the practical examinations must be stated separately in the application, and relate directly to the nature and duration of the practical examination. Applications should be received by the Authority by **Thursday, 26 March 2026**.

3. Provisions for sickness or misadventure

Consideration may be given to candidates (with the exception of non-school candidates) suffering from a temporary sickness or misadventure close to or during the examinations. The candidate may submit a *Sickness/Misadventure Application* if they believe their performance in an examination has been affected by the sickness or misadventure.

If a candidate misses or cannot complete an examination session for health reasons, it is important that medical evidence be provided to verify the nature and severity of the illness/injury. In most cases, that will mean producing evidence from a medical professional who was consulted on the day of the examination or the day before.

Applications will be considered only if made on the correct form, available from the [Application and Order Forms page \(https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/forms/forms\)](https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/forms/forms) on the Authority website from September. Applications that relate to the practical component must be submitted immediately following the practical examination.

Only one form should be used to cover all practical examinations for which the application is being made. The completed form and all supporting evidence must be received by the Authority by **4.00 pm Thursday, 29 October 2026**.

4. Principles of external assessment

The marking process preserves the anonymity of the candidate and their school. This requires that candidates and their work are identified only by their Western Australian student number (WASN).

4.1 Authenticity of the candidate's work

The authenticity of the candidate's work must be guaranteed. It is essential that:

- the main development of all work takes place in school time
- work completed away from school is regularly monitored by the teacher
- each candidate completes and signs a *Declaration of authenticity* (Appendix 2), a legal document witnessed by the supervising teacher and the school principal, to endorse the authenticity of all work undertaken
- the *Declaration of authenticity* is kept separate from the copies of scripts that the candidate is required to bring to the examination room
- a copy of the signed *Declaration of authenticity* is kept by the teacher on record at the school
- no other person works directly on any part of the candidate's performance

- the work is not submitted by the candidate for external assessment other than for the Drama ATAR practical (performance) examination.

4.2 Applying a consistent standard

Markers apply a consistent standard to assess the candidate's performance. This requires:

- a marking key for the practical (performance) examination
- attendance at a marker training meeting prior to the commencement of marking
- trial marking of work to ensure a common understanding of the marking key
- the practical (performance) examination to be marked independently by at least two markers who then reconcile any differences between them
- the Chief Marker to ensure consistency throughout the marking by monitoring the marking process and reconciling significant differences where necessary.

5. Criteria for marking

The practical performance is assessed on what a candidate is able to demonstrate through each part of the examination. The *Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination marking key 2026*, published on the Authority website, identifies the assessment criteria and describes levels of candidate performance for each criterion. Students are advised to familiarise themselves with the marking key as preparation for their performance in the examination.

A numerical scale is used to assess candidate performance in the practical (performance) examination. All candidates are examined against the following criteria.

Part 1: Monologue 1 – Candidate's Choice

- Stylistic performance choices
- Voice
- Movement
- Characterisation
- Application of chosen elements of drama

Part 2: Monologue 2 – Set Choice

- Voice
- Movement
- Characterisation
- Application of chosen elements of drama

Part 3: Improvisation

- Voice
- Movement
- Role/Characterisation
- Given idea

6. Venues

All candidates are required to travel to the allocated venue. Venues for the Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination will be located in the Perth metropolitan area and, if required, major country locations.

7. Country candidates travelling to Perth for examinations

Candidates from schools located less than 100 km from Perth are required to travel to the venue at their own expense.

Candidates from schools located more than 100 km from Perth:

- are not reimbursed for accommodation and/or meal costs
- must be accompanied by a chaperone approved by their school if required to stay overnight
- will be reimbursed for fuel up to \$400 (on production of receipts) where a candidate is close enough to drive (i.e. in the area south of Geraldton, west of Kalgoorlie and north of Albany)
- will have a flight (and accommodation if required) arranged and paid for by the Department of Education (the Department) when required to fly to Perth. Note: parents/schools who pay for airfares will not be reimbursed. When travelling by air, and the candidate is travelling alone, the candidate will be met by an employee from the Department and will have appropriate transport organised by the Authority.

8. Examination procedure

On the day of the practical (performance) examination, the candidate **must** bring a signed hard copy of their *Personalised practical (performance) examination timetable* (Appendix 1) to the examination as proof of enrolment. An image of their *Personalised practical (performance) examination timetable* on their mobile phone will **not** be accepted as proof of enrolment. Candidates must also present a form of photographic identification; an image of the candidate's identification on a phone is acceptable.

If a candidate is found with any unauthorised materials during the examination, they will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee.

Candidates **must not** wear or carry anything that identifies them or any person, school, club or achievements. Any candidate who does not comply with these requirements will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee. The candidate is responsible for their personal belongings at all times.

Candidates must give their signed *Declaration of authenticity* to the supervisor upon arrival at the examination venue.

The candidate must report to a supervisor at the examination venue at their scheduled reporting time. The reporting time is 40 minutes before their scheduled examination time. Candidates who arrive 35 minutes or more after their scheduled reporting time will not be admitted to the practical (performance) examination and the examination cannot be rescheduled.

The scheduled examination time is the time at which the markers will invite the candidate into the examination room, as shown in the candidate's *Personalised practical (performance) examination timetable*.

Prior to the scheduled examination time, a supervisor takes the candidate to a warm-up area. There may be more than one candidate being supervised simultaneously in the warm-up area. The candidate's warm-up and focus activities at the examination centre must not interfere with the preparation or examination of others.

Candidates will be escorted by the supervisor to the examination room, where they sit outside until invited in by one of the markers. As well as the two markers in the examination room, there may be a third person supervising the process.

The candidate must leave the examination area once they have completed their examination. The candidate must not have contact with candidates waiting to be examined, teachers or other parties who are seeking information about the examination until all the examinations have concluded. Any candidate who does not comply with these requirements will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee.

The candidate must bring the following items to the practical (performance) examination:

- a signed hard copy of their *Personalised practical (performance) examination timetable* (Appendix 1)
- a signed *Declaration of authenticity* (Appendix 2)
- two copies of their Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice performance script with a completed *Script cover page: Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice* (Appendix 3) attached to the front of each copy
- two copies of their Monologue 2 – Set Choice performance script with a completed *Script cover page: Monologue 2 – Set Choice* (Appendix 4) attached to the front of each copy.

9. Script layout

Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice

Candidates must adhere to the script layout from the *Accepted script layout conventions* (Appendix 5) for their Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice performance.

Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice is to be sourced by the candidate and **not** selected from the Set monologue list. It **must** be a single-character performance. It can be either:

- published or unpublished (from a play, screenplay or standalone monologue)
- a monologue created by the candidate
- a mix of published and/or unpublished and/or monologue created by the candidate.

The candidate’s explanation of their Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice on the *Script cover page* is not assessed; however, the information presented in the statement is critical to how the Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice is viewed by the markers.

The performance script must be presented in 11-point Arial font, be printed single-sided on A4 paper and have the completed *Script cover page: Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice* attached to the front. Scripts will not be returned to candidates.

Monologue 2 – Set Choice

For their Monologue 2 – Set Choice, candidates must select a monologue from the Set monologue list (available on the Drama course page on the Authority website). The *Script cover page: Monologue 2 – Set Choice* must be attached to the front. Scripts will not be returned to candidates. Candidates **must** start their performance with the ‘Beginning Dialogue’ detailed in the Set monologue list.

Improvisation

The candidate is to perform an improvisation based on a given character/role, setting and action.

For example:

Character/Role	Setting	Action
Waiter	At work during a busy period	Customer proposes marriage to you
Gardener	At a park	You discover a new form of butterfly
Prime Minister	At a primary school	Giving a speech to Year 1s
Nurse	Having a lunchbreak in a park	You find an injured duck
Doctor	At the cinema	There is a sneezing attack

10. Equipment

The following items will be provided in the examination room for candidate use, if required:

- power supply for candidates to set up their own sound equipment
- one school desk and two chairs.

The candidate can bring costumes, props and scenery to the examination, limited to what they alone can carry and set up in 60 seconds. All costumes, props and scenery brought into the examination must be used in Part 1 and/or Part 2. Only the costumes, props and scenery used in Part 1 and/or Part 2 can be used in Part 3. All watches must be removed and phones must be in flight mode.

The candidate can use an audio recording to support their Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice only. Candidates must provide their own sound equipment if required. A mobile phone can be used as sound equipment, but it must be in flight mode. Any audio must be downloaded prior to the examination and cannot be live-streamed.

11. Technical assistance

Candidates can have a technical assistant to operate the sound equipment for Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice. The drama teacher of a candidate or a person who is a practical examination marker in 2026 **cannot** act as a technical assistant.

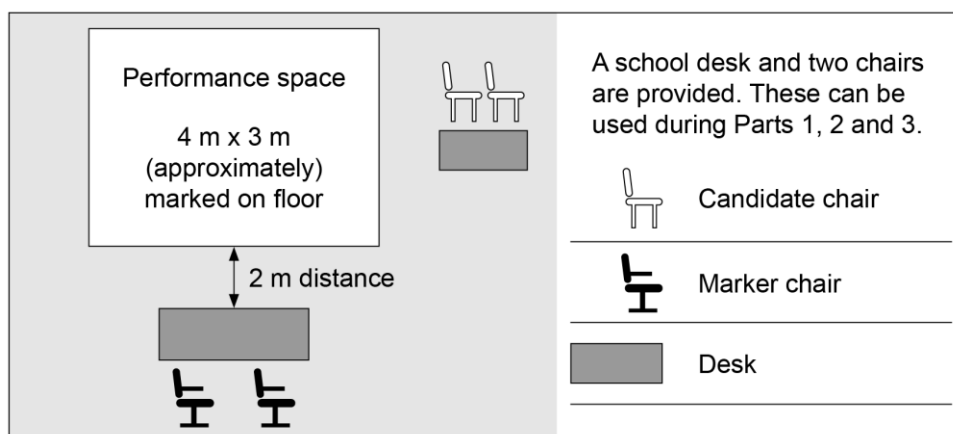
The technical assistant:

- must not wear or carry anything that identifies them or any person, school, club or achievements. If this does occur, the candidate will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee
- will set up and operate sound equipment in a position nominated by the markers
- can only communicate with the candidate when conducting a sound check during set-up time (they cannot prompt, applaud, cheer or comment during the performance)
- can carry and set up the sound equipment only (that is, they may not carry in any props, costumes or scenery)
- must leave immediately after the completion of Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice and take the sound equipment with them.

12. Layout of the examination room

All examination rooms will be set up in a consistent manner in terms of lighting, access to power supply for sound equipment and the placement of the markers as shown in Figure 1 below. Candidates are required to perform within the marked performance area. If props fall outside of the performance space during the examination, they cannot be retrieved during the performance.

Figure 1. Examination room layout



Note: candidates are required to perform within the marked performance space.

13. Safe and appropriate practice

It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that their performance is safe and that the examination space is left clean and clear for the next candidate.

Candidates will not be permitted to use any unsafe or potentially unsafe props, practices or materials, including:

- guns and knives or other weapons, including replica weapons, mallets/wooden gavel
- sharp or dangerous materials, such as needles, barbed wire, hand tools, cutlery, scissors, flames and matches
- breakable items, such as ceramics and glass, including glass mirrors and glass in frames
- anything that can be spilled on the stage area, such as liquids and gels, including water, fake blood, sand, glitter and sprayed substances, such as from an aerosol can
- real food, even if in cans or packaging.

Candidates are asked to carefully consider the props they use and to check them with their teacher well in advance of the examination. Where there are reasonable grounds for the markers to feel that these safety guidelines have been breached, they will instruct the candidate to stop the performance, and the breach will be reported to the Chief Marker. The candidate can be removed from the marking process at the discretion of the Chief Marker.

The candidate's performance must not be offensive, contain material deemed inappropriate (such as explicit violence, drug use, self-harm or sexual references that are not within the context of a Year 12 classroom and public examination process) or have content that may be objectionable to the audience (i.e. the markers). Candidates must not involve the markers in any confrontational or intimidating practice during the examination.

While it is understood that a practical examination may challenge established views, it is important to consider and take into account the values of the audience and the accepted standards of the wider community, and in general within a Year 12 context.

Performances and submitted work that is deemed inappropriate may be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee.

14. Structure of the examination

Examination	Duration
Part 1: Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice 45% of the practical (performance) examination	Preparation: 60 seconds Performance: 3–4 minutes
Part 2: Monologue 2 – Set Choice 35% of the practical (performance) examination	Preparation: 60 seconds Performance: 2–3 minutes
Part 3: Improvisation 20% of the practical (performance) examination	Preparation: 60 seconds Performance: 1–2 minutes

Pre-performance

The markers will ask the candidate about their props and if they have any liquids, glass or anything dangerous to declare. The candidate will be informed of the time limit as they enter the room. The candidate is allowed 60 seconds from entering the room to the commencement of their Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice. Candidates may test their voice and sound equipment during this time in order to determine appropriate projection and the acoustics of the room.

Part 1: Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice

The performance will be stopped if it is still in progress after 4 minutes.

Transition between Parts 1 and 2

The candidate is allowed 60 seconds to set up any props or scenery, or make any necessary costume changes for Part 2.

Part 2: Monologue 2 – Set Choice

The performance will be stopped if it is still in progress after 3 minutes.

Transition between Parts 2 and 3

The markers will provide the character/role, setting and action for the improvisation. The candidate is allowed 60 seconds to set up any props or scenery, or make any necessary costume changes for Part 3.

Part 3: Improvisation

The performance will be stopped if the improvisation is still in progress after 2 minutes.

15. Consequences of not meeting examination requirements

Before the examination

Candidate action	Consequence
Arrival 35 minutes after the scheduled reporting time	Candidate cannot sit the examination. Sickness/misadventure may apply
Failure to submit a completed <i>Declaration of authenticity</i>	Candidate can be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee

During the examination

Candidate action	Consequence
Unsafe practice during examination	Examination will be stopped
Monologue 1 – Candidate's Choice performance is longer than 4 minutes	Candidate will be asked to stop
Has a mobile phone in the examination that is not in flight mode	Candidate will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee
Monologue 2 – Set Choice is longer than 3 minutes	Candidate will be asked to stop
Monologue 2 – Set Choice is not from the Set Monologue List	Candidate cannot complete Part 2 of examination and will be referred to the Chief Marker
Improvisation is longer than 2 minutes	Candidate will be asked to stop
Whole performance – candidate takes too long during transitions	Marker will start the timer and normal time constraints and consequences will apply

16. Breach of examination rules

An alleged breach of examination rules will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee. Further information related to examination breaches can be found on the [Rules of conduct for Year 12 ATAR course examinations \(https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/examinations/rules-of-conduct-for-atar-course-examinations\)](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/examinations/rules-of-conduct-for-atar-course-examinations) on the Authority website and in Part II of the *Year 12 Information Handbook*, published in July.

A breach of one of these rules can result in cancellation of part or all of the practical raw examination mark.

17. Key dates

Thursday, 23 July 2026

Last date for withdrawal of enrolment from ATAR courses with a practical examination component

Wednesday, 29 July 2026

Last date for the Authority to receive completed application forms for alternative format ATAR course practical examinations

Tuesday, 8 September 2026

Personalised practical examination timetables can be downloaded by schools/providers via SIRS. Students can access their personalised examination timetables via the student portal

Saturday, 26 September to Sunday, 4 October 2026 (Saturdays, Sundays and the public holiday included)

Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination

Appendix 1: Personalised practical (performance) examination timetable



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Personalised practical (performance) examination timetable 2026

Drama

WA student number:

X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
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Candidate: Name

School name: School

School code: xxxx

Examination details

Course: Drama

Date: Day, Date Month Year

Reporting time: 1:25 pm

Examination time: 2:05 pm

Venue: Venue
(Re-check on the day prior to the examination)

Reporting location: Reporting room

These examination details are final and no changes can be made.

Candidates, staff and visitors are required to comply with all venue specific requirements.

Candidates who are unwell must complete and submit a *Sickness/Misadventure Application Form*, with supporting evidence, to the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority). If you are a non-school candidate for this course, there is no option to apply for Sickness/Misadventure.

Candidates who arrive 35 minutes or more after the scheduled reporting time will not be admitted to the practical (performance) examination. The examination cannot be rescheduled. At the reporting time, candidates must submit a completed *Declaration of authenticity*. Any candidate who does not comply with these requirements, will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee.

Candidates **must not** wear or carry anything that identifies them or any person, school, club or achievements. Any candidate who does not comply with these requirements will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee.

Candidates are required to sign this timetable prior to the examination. This signed timetable must be shown to the supervisor, with photographic ID, when registering at the examination venue for the practical (performance) examination. Digital copies of your timetable, e.g. on a mobile telephone, are **not** permitted.

Candidates **must not** contact the venue about the examination arrangements. Any queries must be directed to the Authority on 9273 6377.

Signature Date

Emergency contact for candidates: Phone 0434 734 248

Google Maps QR code:



Google Maps link: <https://studentportal.scsa.wa.edu.au/>

Description: Venue and location information

Appendix 2: Declaration of authenticity



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ATAR course practical (performance/portfolio/production) examinations 2026 Declaration of authenticity

ATAR course: (circle one course)

DAN	DES	DRA	MDT	MPA	VAR	MUS (Composition Portfolio examination only)
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This form must be completed by candidates enrolled to sit an examination for the above courses only. Failure to submit a completed *Declaration of authenticity* could result in a referral to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee.

Candidate declaration

Name: _____ School code: _____

WA student number:

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As a candidate for the practical (performance/portfolio/production) examination, I declare that:

- I have completed all the work contained in this submission throughout the duration of the ATAR course being examined
- none of the work performed or submitted was worked on directly by a teacher or any other person or company except those acknowledged, if appropriate, in the references or acknowledgements section or form. This includes the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools
- none of the work in this examination was submitted for external assessment in any other ATAR course examination
- all documentation submitted is accurate
- I will submit this declaration in accordance with the instructions in the course practical examination requirements document.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Principal and teacher declarations

This section is to be signed by the school principal and the candidate's teacher.

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the work performed or submitted:

- has been completed by the candidate throughout the duration of the ATAR course being examined
- has been developed mainly in school time, and any work away from school was regularly monitored by the teacher
- has not been worked on directly by a teacher or any other person or company and, if applicable, work has been formally referenced or acknowledged (including the use of generative artificial intelligence [AI] tools)
- has not been submitted for external assessment in any other course or program
- has been checked and meets the practical examination requirements, and a copy of this form has been kept as an official school record
- is in working order, i.e. appropriate USB drives, DVDs and CDs are formatted correctly.

	Teacher	Principal
Name		
Signature		
Date		

Appendix 3: Script cover page: Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice



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Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination 2026

Script cover page – Monologue 1 – Candidate’s Choice

WA student number:

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Instructions to candidate

- Monologue 1 is to be sourced by the candidate and not selected from the list on the *Monologue 2 – Set Choice* form.
- Attach a completed copy of this cover page to the front of each of the two copies of your script.
- Scripts must be presented in 11-point Arial font.
- All pages in your script should be A4 size and secured by staples in the left-hand corner.
- Pages must be presented in the correct order and printed single-sided.
- Ensure that submitted materials do not contain anything that identifies the candidate or any person, school, teacher or achievements.

Select whether the monologue is either:

- ☐ published or unpublished (from a play, screenplay or standalone monologue)
- ☐ a monologue created by the candidate
- ☐ a mix of published and/or unpublished and/or monologue created by the candidate.

1. Title of Monologue 1: _____

2. Role/character: _____

3. Provide a brief synopsis of the monologue: _____

4. Explain your interpretation and how it has informed the performance choices you have made. Consider form and style (maximum 60 words).

5. Props possibly considered unsafe declared (if any): _____

6. This is: Copy 1 ☐ Copy 2 ☐ (tick one box)

Appendix 4: Script cover page: Monologue 2 – Set Choice



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Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination 2026

Script cover page – Monologue 2 – Set Choice

WA student number:

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Instructions to candidate

- Attach a completed copy of this cover page to the front of each of the two copies of your selected monologue.
- Do **not** name your parent, teacher or any school on this cover page or on any page of your script.
- Highlight your selected monologue for Part 2 of the practical (performance) examination from the list below.

A Midsummer Night's Dream: Puck	Emotion Memory: Stanislavsky	Punk Rock: Chadwick	The Merchant of Venice: Portia
A Room in the Tower: Lady Jane Grey	Fat Pig: Tom	Richard III: Gloucester	The Merchant of Venice: Shylock
Accidental Death of an Anarchist: Madman	Happy Days: Winnie	Romeo and Juliet: Nurse	The Next Mrs Jacob Anderson: Mrs Anderson
After Juliet: Rosaline	Image in the Clay: Gordon	Ruben Guthrie: Ruben Guthrie	The Picture of Dorian Gray: Dorian
Agnes of God: Agnes	Ivanov: Sasha	Saint Joan: Joan	The Positive Hour: Paula
All this Intimacy: Jen	Jerusalem: Nina	Secret Bridesmaid's Business: Colleen	The Shoe-Horn Sonata: Sheila
Amadeus: Amadeus	Laughter on the 23rd Floor: Ira	Skylight: Kyra	The Spiders: Boy
Art: Yvan	Les Dangerous Liaisons: Marquise de Merteuil	The Call: Denise	The Stronger: MME X
Away: Meg	Love, Loss and What I Wore: Rosie	The Caretaker: Mick	Thebans: Ismene
Bald Prima Donna: Fire Chief	Mother Teresa is Dead: Jane	The Cherry Orchard: Lopakhin	Top Girls: Dull Gret
Big Love: Giuliano	Noah: Noah	The Christian Brothers: The Christian Brother	The Two Gentlemen of Verona: Launce
Caravan: Penny	Oedipus Rex: Oedipus	The Crucible: Mary Warren	Waking Up: Character
Daylight Saving: Stephanie	One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest: Randle McMurphy	The Glass Menagerie: Tom	Who's Afraid of the Working Class? Rhonda
Detroit: Sharon	One Man, Two Guvnors: Francis	The Good Father: Tim	

Notes for markers regarding your selected form and style for the monologue: _____

Props possibly considered unsafe declared (if any): _____

This is: Copy 1 ☐ Copy 2 ☐ (tick one box)

Appendix 5: Accepted script layout conventions for Monologue 1 – Candidate's Choice



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Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination 2026

Accepted script layout conventions for Monologue 1 – Candidate's Choice

Candidate must adhere to the script layout conventions shown in the sample below.

Monologue 1 – Candidate's Choice scripts are to be presented on A4 paper, typed in 11-point Arial font and printed single-sided.

Sample script layout

Scene One	Character's name in capitals
(JAMES enters the space wearing a bomber jacket, jeans and well-worn sneakers. His face is dirty and manner appears agitated.)	
JAMES: Of course I get a flat on the day of my big job interview. I could have got the flat yesterday when I had all day to kill. Nothing to do but watch daytime TV. Could have changed the tyre then between ad breaks!	For dialogue, character names in capitals aligned left
I can't believe Micky didn't get back to me. Some mate.	Dialogue indented
(The sound of a mobile phone is heard. JAMES reaches into his pocket and answers.)	Stage directions in italics and in brackets aligned left
JAMES: Hello? (listens) Micky! Thanks for getting back to me. Yeah, I do need a hand. Or did. An hour ago!	Stage directions in dialogue bracketed and in italics

Appendix 6: A guide to the Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination



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A guide to the Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination

This information is provided to assist and guide teachers in preparing students for the Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination.

Before the examination

- After reporting to the supervisor, the candidate will be escorted to their examination room and instructed to wait outside. A marker will open the door and invite the candidate into the room.
- The marker will ask whether the candidate has any props to declare, including liquids, food, breakable items, such as glass or ceramic, sharp and/or dangerous items, or weapons, including replica weapons. The candidate must give an answer. For more information, check page 7 of the *Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination requirements 2026* document.
- If an item is declared, the marker will check the item and make a determination on whether it is accepted.
 - If a declared prop/s is acceptable, the candidate will move to the performance space.
 - If a declared prop/s is not acceptable, the marker will let the candidate know the prop/s is considered unsafe and they are not permitted to bring it into the examination. The candidate must leave the unsafe prop/s outside the examination room.
- The marker will then ask the candidate for copies of their scripts for Monologue 1 and Monologue 2 and indicate where to put any personal items not required for the examination.
- The marker will inform the candidate that they have 60 seconds to prepare for Monologue 1 – Candidate's Choice and can use the desk and one or two chairs. The marker will advise the candidate that if they plan to stand on the desk provided, they need to check the ceiling height. The candidate may use their set-up time to check the acoustics of the room.
- If a technician is present, the marker will ask the technician to set up the sound equipment and suggest they check the volume level.
- The candidate may start before the 60 seconds has expired but must inform the markers that they are ready to begin. The marker will then start the timer.
- When the 60 seconds has expired, the marker will indicate to begin the performance.

Part 1: Monologue 1 – Candidate's Choice

- The marker will start the timer for four minutes.
- At the conclusion of the performance, or if the performance is longer than four minutes, the marker will indicate the end of the performance.
- If there is a technician, the marker will ask the technician to leave.
- The marker will then inform the candidate that they have 60 seconds to prepare for Monologue 2 – Set Choice.
- The candidate may start before the 60 seconds has expired but must inform the markers that they are ready to begin. The marker will then start the timer.
- When the 60 seconds has expired, the marker will indicate to begin the performance.

Part 2: Monologue 2 – Set Choice

- The marker will start the timer for three minutes.
- At the conclusion of the performance, or if the performance is longer than three minutes, the marker will indicate the end of the performance.
- At the conclusion of Monologue 2, the marker will select an improvisation for the candidate. The candidate is to clear the performance space in preparation.

Part 3: Improvisation

The marker will then inform the candidate of their improvisation, which includes the following:

- You will take on the character/role of ...
- The setting is ...
- The action is ...
- The marker will then repeat this information. The marker will then inform the candidate that they have 60 seconds to prepare for the improvisation.
- The candidate may start before the 60 seconds has expired but must inform the markers that they are ready to begin. The marker will then start the timer.
- When the 60 seconds has expired, the marker will ask the candidate to begin and start the timer.
- If the candidate's improvisation is longer than two minutes, the marker will stop the candidate.

At the end of the improvisation, the marker will let the candidate know that the examination is now finished and the candidate may leave.

Appendix 7: Drama practical (performance) examination checklist



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Drama practical (performance) examination checklist

This checklist is a support document for candidates and teachers and is not to be brought to the examination venue. The *Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination requirements* document remains the primary source of examination guidelines.

Candidate to complete	
☐	Print, sign and date a copy of your <i>Personalised practical examination timetable</i> to take to the examination. Note: an image of the timetable on a phone will not be accepted.
☐	Bring photographic ID to the examination venue. Photographic ID on your phone is acceptable.
☐	Report to a supervisor at the examination venue at the scheduled reporting time (40 minutes before the scheduled examination time).
☐	Bring your signed hard copy of the <i>Declaration of authenticity</i> , two copies of Monologue 1 with a completed <i>Script cover page – Monologue 1</i> attached to the front of each copy and two copies of Monologue 2 with a completed <i>Script cover page – Monologue 2</i> attached to the front of each copy.
☐	Do not wear or carry anything that identifies you or any person, school, club or achievements. All watches must be removed.
☐	Ensure that you have sourced Monologue 1 – Candidate's Choice and not selected it from the <i>Set Monologue List</i> . It must be a single character performance.
☐	Ensure that you have selected Monologue 2 – Set Choice from the <i>Set Monologue List</i> . You must start your performance with the 'Beginning Dialogue' detailed in the <i>Set Monologue List</i> .
☐	You can bring costumes, props and scenery to the examination, limited to what you alone can carry and set up in 60 seconds.
☐	You can use audio to support Monologue 1 only, but you must provide your own sound equipment. A mobile phone can be used, but it must be in flight mode. Any audio must be downloaded prior to the examination and cannot be live streamed.
☐	You can have a technical assistant operate the sound for Monologue 1, but your drama teacher or a practical examination marker cannot fulfil this role. The technical assistant must not wear or carry anything that identifies them or any person, school, club or achievements.
☐	You must not involve the markers in any confrontational or intimidating practice during the examination.
☐	You must not use any breakable items, unsafe or dangerous props and/or practices, or anything that can be spilled, and must not bring real food into the examination room. For more information, check page 7 of the <i>Drama ATAR course practical (performance) examination requirements 2026</i> document.
Teacher to complete	
☐	A <i>Declaration of authenticity</i> form has been completed for this candidate.