

Generally speaking, the November 2005 examination paper was not well answered. It was evident that candidates did not know the basic content required by the syllabus. Teachers must ensure that candidates know and understand the basic content of the syllabus. Questions dealing with *application* of the content were not answered well and candidates found it difficult to word application practices. Teachers must ensure that learners do regular application of practice and theory in class, and that they document this practice. This can be done in the assessment tasks of practical work.

Candidates did not display a knowledge of speech terminology. Simple terms such as *tone* and *volume* were clearly not known by many candidates. Candidates have no knowledge of speech exercises or the exercises of Grotowski. They showed confusion when the question demanded a comparison between Stanislavski and Grotowski. Teachers must make sure that their learners can distinguish between these two theatre practitioners.

Content questions on the different plays were well answered. However, candidates found it difficult to visualise the staging possibilities locked within the plays, particularly aspects such as

- ? stage space and décor,
- ? placement of characters on the stage, and
- ? physical characterisation of characters.

Teachers must remember that this is a practical subject and that question on application to acting and stage space can be expected.

Candidates found it difficult to determine the elements of tragic-comedy in the applicable sources.

At times candidates confused the plays **Elephant of Africa** and **Horn of Sorrow**. It is important that plays are studied thoroughly.

The play, **Waiting for Godot**, was extremely poorly answered. This play should not be studied by Standard Grade candidates as they find it difficult to understand and communicate the abstract content.

The theatre history questions were answered well, but candidates still found the comparison questions difficult. Candidates answered questions on one genre, but not the other.

Teachers must bear in mind that Standard Grade candidates need to be taught how to word their answers. Candidates must be taught how to analyse and answer question appropriately. They found it difficult to understand what knowledge was required by the question. The weaker candidates need to be assisted to apply the basic elements of drama so that they will feel confident when writing their Speech and Drama examination paper.