

DRAMATIC ARTS

NOVEMBER 2009

The Dramatic Arts paper was, in general, well answered and there was clear evidence of thorough preparation for this examination.

Particularly noteworthy were those centres which displayed excellent attention to detail in the answering of questions on Epic Theatre, Theatre of the Absurd, *Woza Albert!* and *Nothing But the Truth*.

The answers in Section A were well formulated and there was evidence of a considerable improvement in the structuring and detail in these essay answers.

In Section B, there was clear evidence of thorough preparation and knowledge of all the prescribed plays. Candidates are encouraged to read the questions very carefully and to give reasons for their opinions, based on their knowledge of the prescribed texts.

Some candidates found difficulty in answering the questions in Section C and it is advised that greater attention be given to the technique involved in answering these types of questions. Critical thinking skills, analysis and synthesis should be practised in order for candidates to feel confident when answering such questions. Candidates should be exposed to Blooms Taxonomy in order to assist them in this regard.

GENERAL REMARKS

Candidates showed evidence of understanding the basic knowledge and skill components of the learning outcomes and assessment standards. Teachers should facilitate and mediate the understanding of the application of higher order skills.

Specific questions

Question 1 Epic Theatre

Essay questions were well answered. Teachers could encourage learners to shift into the higher cognitive level of knowledge. Use Blooms Taxonomy. Explain to candidates why a candidate will be awarded only 40%, even if all facts about the movement were given, and why some candidates will be awarded 80% for displaying evidence of higher order thinking.

Question 2 Theatre of the Absurd

2.1: Candidates mentioned only themes, and the question asked for the themes to be discussed in reference to the setting. Teachers must instruct candidates to read questions carefully and to recognize when a higher order answer is required.

Question 3 Boesman and Lena

Well answered.

Question 4 uNosilimela

No candidates answered this question.

Question 5 Woza Albert!

Some candidates showed a negative attitude to township theatre. There is an impression that township theatre has a lower status than theatre based on a script.

Question 6 **Sophiatown**

Well answered. Candidates showed insight. Teachers should encourage candidates to be more specific in their answers and to mention examples.

Question 7 **Nothing but the Truth**

Well answered.

7.5. Some candidates wrote only about their knowledge of the play. Teachers should demonstrate, facilitate and mediate the skills required for analyzing and critical thinking when answering this type of question.

Question 8 **Groundswell**

Candidates showed exceptional insight into the play and the application of the themes, character and plot in current society.

Question 9 **Siener in die Suburbs**

Well answered. Some candidates mentioned only Stanislavsky's acting system, without applying it to the character portrayal.

Question 10 **uNosilimela**

No candidates answered this question.

Question 11 **Voice**

Teachers should teach the technique of answering this type of question. Candidates should know how to think critically and creatively. Teachers should work from Learning Outcome 4: Reflect and evaluate as a guideline. Also refer to Blooms Taxonomy to clarify the skills required for higher order thinking.

Question 12 **Physical theatre and extracts**

Teachers should insist on the use of appropriate dramatic arts terminology.

Question 13 **Live Performance / Media Studies / Cultural Performance and Ritual**

13.1 Candidates answered the section on workshop theatre well, but were not as confident with the structure of the scripted play.

13.2 Many candidates answered this question very well.

13.3 Those candidates who answered this question did not give full answers.