

Speech and drama GCSE comparison

Comparison of GCSE subject content and assessment objectives (published 2011 by Ofqual) and the LAMDA specification for graded examinations in Performance (published September 2014).

Comparison headings	GCSE subject content (Ofqual 2011)	LAMDA Grade 4 specification summary for Acting
Aims and objectives	GCSE specifications in Drama should encourage learners to be inspired, moved and changed by following a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. They should prepare learners to make informed decisions about further learning opportunities and career choices.	The LAMDA Level 2 Award in Performance: Acting is designed to enable learners to develop a range of acting skills. Learners will perform two scenes from memory. The performance will be audible and intelligible with vocal contrast through which mood and meaning are communicated. Learners will be able to demonstrate a sound understanding of the material, leading to an imaginative interpretation in which there is application of appropriate technical skills. Effective preparation and study will be evident, leading to a secure performance. Use of voice, body and space will be effectively combined to communicate the text and engage the audience.
Content - practical	GCSE specifications in Drama must require learners to develop the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use improvisation skills in a range of drama contexts; • apply performance and/or production skills; • select, synthesise and use ideas and skills to create drama; • acquire reflective and evaluative skills in response to a range of dramatic texts; • work collaboratively and creatively to achieve shared dramatic intentions 	<p>Scene 1 (Set Scene): Interpretation and Technique Solo/Duologue learners will perform from memory one set solo/duologue scene from the list provided below.</p> <p>Combined learners will perform from memory either two set solo scenes (one for each learner) or one set duologue scene from the list provided below.</p> <p>Scene 2 (Own Choice): Interpretation and Technique Solo/Duologue learners will perform from memory one solo/duologue scene of their own choice. Combined learners will perform from memory either one duologue scene of their own choice (if two set solo scenes were selected for Scene 1) or two solo scenes of their own choice (if one set duologue scene was selected for Scene 1).</p> <p>The own choice scene(s) must be selected from a published play</p>

Appendix D - A comparison of Graded Examinations with relevant GCSEs and A levels

		<p>or screenplay or a published collection of solo or duologue scenes or be adapted from the dialogue of a published novel. They must not be set in the LAMDA Acting Anthology – Volume 3.</p> <p>The scene(s) must be a minimum of two minutes and no more than four minutes in performance time. The learner(s) must announce the title, author and character prior to the performance. A legible copy of the scene should be provided for the examiner.</p>
Content – theoretical understanding	<p>GCSE specifications in Drama must require learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • different genres and performance styles; • the ways in which meaning is communicated through drama; • a range of staging and performance conventions; • drama terminology and how to use it appropriately; • how plays are constructed and realised through the study of at least one substantial published play; • how to create, interpret and communicate a role or character; 	<p>Knowledge</p> <p>The learner(s) will answer questions on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how the characters are feeling in each scene and how they react to the situations why the characters move as they do in the scenes the reasons for the chosen staging.
Content – historical and contextual studies	<p>GCSE specifications in Drama must require learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drama within its social, cultural and historical context. 	
Assessment – practical	<p><i>NB the assessment objectives are likely to contain a mixture of practical and theoretical elements which will be assessed using a variety of means.</i></p> <p>AO1 Recall, select and communicate their knowledge and understanding of drama to generate, explore and develop ideas (25-35%).</p> <p>AO2 Apply practical skills to communicate in performance. (35-45%).</p>	<p>LO1, LO2 and LO3 constitute 80% of the total marks available.</p> <p>LO1 Perform two scenes from memory, demonstrating an understanding of the material</p> <p>1.1 Demonstrate a basic understanding of the place and period in which the characters live</p> <p>1.2 Demonstrate a basic understanding of the characters’ moods and thoughts</p> <p>1.3 Perform from memory with fluency and focus some of the time</p>

Appendix D - A comparison of Graded Examinations with relevant GCSEs and A levels

	<p>AO3 Analyse and evaluate their own work and that of others using appropriate terminology (20-30%).</p>	<p>LO2 Use vocal skills in response to the text</p> <p>2.1 Sustain vocal control through to the end of some phrases</p> <p>2.2 Use adequate modulation some of the time</p> <p>2.3 Speak with clarity of diction some of the time</p> <p>LO3 Create a physical response to the text</p> <p>3.1 Communicate the personal characteristics of both characters through appropriate stance, movement, gesture(s) and facial expression some of the time</p> <p>3.2 Make effective use of the performance space some of the time</p>
<p>Assessment – knowledge and understanding</p>		<p>LO4 constitutes 20% of the total marks available.</p> <p>LO4 Know and understand the characters, situations and staging in the chosen scenes</p> <p>4.1 Give a brief description of how the characters are feeling in the chosen scenes and how they react to their situations</p> <p>4.2 Give a brief description of the characters’ movements in the chosen scenes and the rationale behind them</p> <p>4.3 Give a brief description of the reasons for the choice of staging in the chosen scenes</p>