

GCSE Drama 1699

Additional Information for International Centres

Summer 2008

This booklet should be used in conjunction with the GCSE Drama 1699 2008 Instructions for the Conduct of the Examination (ICE) booklet and 2007 Examiners' Report. A copy of the 2008 ICE will be available to download from the Edexcel website (www.edexcel.org.uk) in November 2007.

The purpose of this booklet is to provide additional information and guidance for overseas centres for GCSE Drama Paper 2 (1699/02).

Paper 2 can be marked by a Visiting Examiner upon request. However, this is dependent upon the full costs of the visit (i.e. travel, accommodation and subsistence) being met by the centre. All centres should complete a copy of the Performance Arrangements form enclosed, indicating whether or not they require a Visiting Examiner and stating their preferred dates. Please return the form as soon as possible, and by 20 December 2007 at the latest. While every effort will be made to provide a centre with a Visiting Examiner if requested, this cannot be guaranteed. Where it is not possible for an examiner to visit a centre on a given date the recording of the performance(s) will be used as the basis for external assessment. A Visiting Examiner will only be allocated to a centre if a Performance Arrangements Form is received indicating such a request.

All centres that do not receive a Visiting Examiner will have their performances examined on video/DVD. Please read carefully the Guidance for Paper 2 Recorded Performances outlined in this booklet and the ICE.

Centres that do not receive a Visiting Examiner must refer to the checklist enclosed, which should be sent to GCSE Processing Edexcel with the video/DVD and materials.

Performance Arrangements Fax Back Form

GCSE Drama 1699

Summer 2008 Examination

For the Attention of: Drama Assessment
 Fax Number: (00 44) 020 7190 5615

Centre Name: _____

Centre Number: _____

Do you intend to enter candidates for GCSE Drama 1699 for examination in Summer 2008?	Yes	No

If yes, how many entries do you have?	
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Would you like to request a Visiting Examiner?*	Yes	No

*Centres are reminded that requests for a Visiting Examiner can only be made on the understanding that the full costs of the visit (i.e. travel, accommodation and subsistence) must be met by the centre.

Where possible Edexcel will try to provide an examiner to visit your centre; however, this cannot be guaranteed.

If you are requesting a Visiting Examiner, please provide details below of any preferred dates you have for the performance(s) and any arrangements for sharing the visit with other centres:

I will complete the examination by video/DVD, and will send the performance video/DVD and materials to 'GCSE Drama 1699/02 Performance UNMARKED' at Edexcel Processing, Blundell Street, London N7 9ED - within 2 weeks of completing the Paper 2 exam.

Signature: _____ (Head of Drama)

Name: _____

Centre Name:		Centre No:	
Paper Number:	Two	Level	GCSE

GCSE Drama (1699) - Summer 2008

PAPER TWO CHECKLIST - For Video/DVD Performances Only

This form must be completed by centres that DO NOT receive a Visiting Examiner and enclosed with the materials sent to the Edexcel Processing Centre, Blundell Street.

	Item		Number to be sent
1	Centre Performance Conditions - completed by candidates.		1 per centre
2	Copy of texts as performed for scripted performance/ and if available for devised performance		1 per performance group
3	Outline Description of Performance		1 per performance group
4	Performance Examiner's Mark Sheet (centre may wish to include suggested marks)		1 per candidate
5	Performance Support Examiner's Mark Sheet (centre may wish to include suggested marks)		
6	Centre Register - all candidates in candidate number order, with performance group number clearly indicated		2 copies per centre
7	Video(s)/DVD(s) of examination performance(s)		Number as appropriate
8	Video/DVD Time Sheet		Number as appropriate

Comments

You may use this space for any additional comments relating to the performance(s) of the candidates at the centre that may be appropriate for the examiner viewing the recording and materials.

Name and signature of Head of Drama		Date	

GCSE Drama 1699 - Guidance for Paper 2 Recorded Performances

Please note the following details for performances to be examined on video/DVD:

It is vital that a clear recording is made of your performance(s). Please read carefully the information contained in this booklet and the Instructions for the Conduct of the Examination (ICE). The instructions regarding all video/DVD recordings are found in section 2.12 of the ICE booklet, and should be read in conjunction with the specific instructions given below.

Candidates must introduce themselves clearly and slowly to the camera before each performance, stating their name, candidate number and the role(s) played. It is very helpful to have a complete still image of the whole cast for the examiner to check against the examiner marksheets before the performance commences. Please ensure that the camera has the best seat in the house i.e. in an unobstructed position close to the performers. Close ups, if included, should be kept to a minimum. It is important that the camera operator is silent during the recording, as comments and breathing can be easily picked up by the microphone and are often very loud, making it difficult to hear the performance candidates.

Performance support candidates: The presentation must appear on the video/DVD before the performance and must be made directly to camera. The centre must ensure any models etc. are clearly recorded on camera. It is very helpful to send copies of candidates' documentation. These must be on paper and the originals kept in the centre as no materials sent for this paper can be returned to centres. Teachers must give a clear indication of the documentation completed and the standard of work.

Centres are strongly advised to include comments on the live performances and suggest marks on the Performance Examiner Mark Sheets (form D2c), in pencil only. **It is of paramount importance that these relate only to the assessment criteria and the performance.** Comments about preparation or student commitment do not form any part of the assessment for this paper and will be ignored by the examiner. Suggested marks must be entered on each individual Performance Examiner Mark Sheet. Centres must be aware that the comments sent to the examiners are for information only and the examiner will award the final mark.

Please include notes on the composition and size of the audience present at the performance examination on form D2a, as this is important for the criteria regarding communication to the audience. Please provide as much information as possible to the examiner by including any relevant additional information above the requirements listed in this booklet. Excellent practice in the past has been to include photographs of the cast before the performance and photographs taken during the performance, giving names and roles of each candidate.

Centres are reminded that this is an examination in English and comments regarding candidates' facility with spoken English form no part of the assessment of this paper.

Centres must provide a recording of all performances, introductions and presentations on a new, standard VHS format tape or a DVD. Work cannot be accepted in any other format. Centres must check all performances on video/DVD before despatch to the address below. Nb All work must be able to be played on standard domestic video/DVD player.

Centres are strongly recommended to use courier companies to despatch all materials. In previous years, work sent by airmail has gone missing and has been unable to be traced. Videos/DVDs and materials must be sent to:

'GCSE Drama 1699/02 Performance UNMARKED', Edexcel, GCSE Processing
Blundell Street, London, N7 9ED

You MUST NOT send any materials relating to Paper 2 to your Paper 1 moderator.

The Senior Examining team wishes your candidates all the best for the forthcoming examination series.