



ARMADALE ACADEMY

Higher Drama How to Pass Guide

for parents and carers

Exam breakdown and links to key SQA documents

- Exam Breakdown: 2 Exams - Practical and Written
- Practical: There are 2 components to the practical exam. The first is the two performances, marked against the criteria mentioned above. The second is a short written essay called a "Preparation for Performance". This is worth 10 marks, and details the process that a pupil has taken to prepare for their different roles. This is written before the day of the exam, and given to the examiner before they are assessed.
- Written: 3 sections (made up of essays and extended responses)
- Past Papers: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47894.html>

Resources to support your child

- Link for "A Taste of Honey" breakdowns: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zw3kcwx/revision/1>
- In the "files" section on the class Teams Page has all the resources we have used this year as study materials, as well as PowerPoints of class lessons to study content covered in class.
- A great resource to help with Section 1 & 2 of the written exam is the "A Taste of Honey" lit chart within Teams, which breaks down all aspects of the play, in great detail, with various different examples.

Practical strategies to support your child

- Attempting practice exam questions from past papers. These questions can be brought in and given to the teacher to be marked.
- Acting pupils are required to learn their lines from home.
- No shortcut to this other than repetition and recall. Recording lines and listen back/writing down lines that are hard to remember can be very helpful.
- Creating meetings with group members when outside of school can be a great way to continue to work on their pieces collaboratively.
- Attempting revision questions in a timed scenario under exam conditions is a great way to become use to the pressure and restraints of the exam.
- Pupils should focus on creating a bank of quotations and key moments from both of their plays they are studying.
- For each key moment, describe what was happening in the two production areas that we've focussed on (acting and design)
- For each moment, list potential dramatic impact this had e.g. Moods, Themes, Issues, Genre, Relationships etc.

How can you support your child?

- Help to create a study timetable for a pupil to follow, so that all subjects are getting adequate time and ensuring that these are stuck to.
- Partake in script read-throughs, acting as a prompt for pupils as they try to learn their lines. Verbal communication is a great way to remember difficult parts of a script.
- Create flash-cards for different terminology words, and help to test understanding of these.
- Help to aid practice questions under timed conditions.