



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit  
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination  
Sample 2  
Drama, Film and Theatre Studies

Ordinary Level

2 hours 30 minutes

300 marks

Examination Number

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Date of Birth

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For example, 3rd February  
2005 is entered as 03 02 05

Centre Stamp

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## Instructions

There are **three** sections in this paper.

<b>Section A</b>	<b>Compulsory Questions</b>	100 marks
	Question 1 - Answer all parts.	
	Question 2 - Unprescribed focus of study - Answer all parts.	
<b>Section B</b>	<b>Exploring Drama, Theatre and Film</b>	160 marks
	Question 3 - Prescribed Drama/Theatre - Answer 3(a) or 3(b).	
	Question 4 - Prescribed Film - Answer 4(a) or 4(b).	
<b>Section C</b>	<b>Reflecting and Responding</b>	40 marks
	Question 5 - Answer 5(a) or 5(b).	

Write your Examination Number and your Date of Birth in the boxes on the front cover.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. You may not need to use all of the space provided. There is space for extra work at the end of the booklet. Label any such extra work clearly with the question number and part.

**Write your answers in blue or black pen.**

**You may use pencil, including colouring pencil for sketches and drawings only. Do not use marker, paint or any wet media.**

This examination booklet will be scanned and your work will be presented to an examiner on screen. Anything that you write outside of the answer areas may not be seen by the examiner.

## Question 1

(60 marks)

Answer all parts.

(a)



**Figure A.** Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, Columbia Pictures, 1922.

Study the still image in **Figure A**. It is a still image where the lighting and sharp shadows dominate the scene.

- (i) Name **one** lighting effect used in **Figure A**.
- (ii) How would you recreate this lighting effect? Explain your answer with reference to **two** examples from the image.

(i)
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(ii)

*This question continues on the next page*

**(b)**

Explain any **three** of the following terms as they apply in film or theatre:

Term	Explanation
Scene	
Genre	
Treatment	
Relaxed screening/performance	

*This question continues on the next page*

**(c)**

Imagine you are a theatre director and you want to show conflict between two people on stage using blocking.

- (i)** What does the term blocking mean?
- (ii)** How would you use blocking to visually represent the conflict between two people on stage?
- (iii)** What should a director consider when blocking?

(i)

(ii)

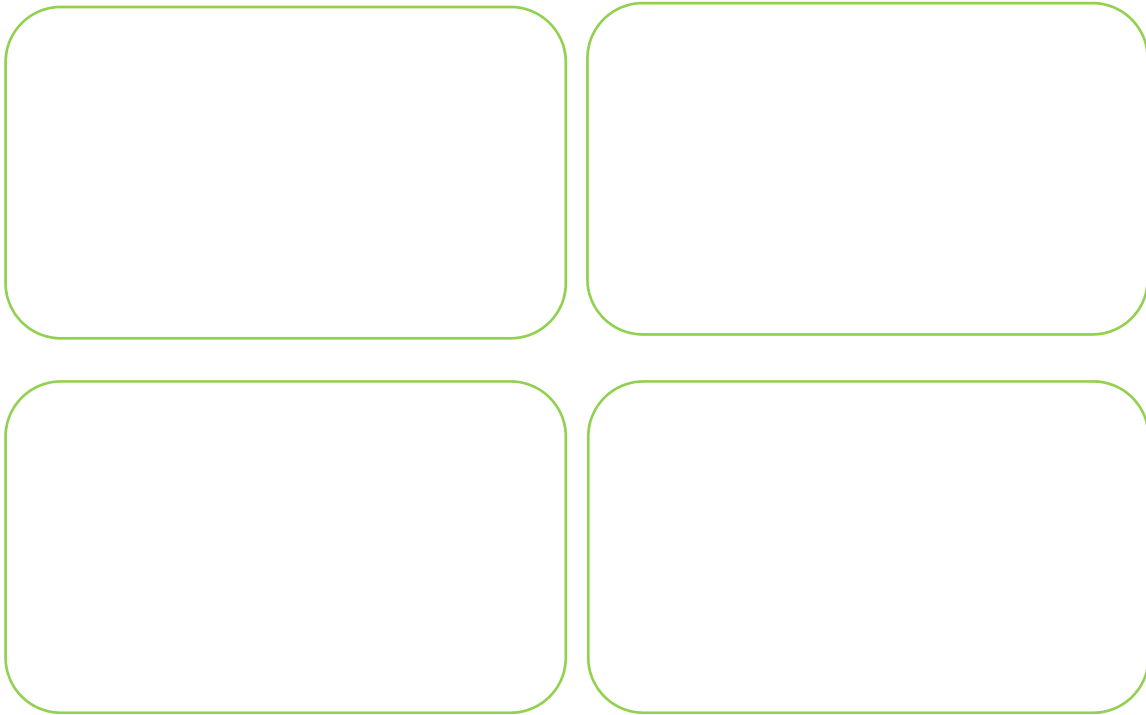
(iii)

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**(d)**

You are working on a film where a character, illuminated by a single streetlight, is standing alone in a dark alley ...

**(i)** Use the storyboard below to outline how you would create tension in this scene.



**(ii)** Explain how your storyboard creates tension.


*This question continues on the next page*

**(e)**

Identify **three** responsibilities of a stage manager.

1:	
2:	
3:	

**(f)**

A Flashback is a transition in a story to an earlier time, that interrupts the normal chronological order of events.

Why are flashbacks used in film/theatre?


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**Question 2**

**Unprescribed focus of study**

**(40 marks)**

Answer all parts.

Please note:  
For the purpose of assessment in **Question 2**, the term **focus of study** is understood to represent unprescribed genres/periods/styles/forms studied in both theatre and film.  
**In answering this question, you may not refer to any plays or films prescribed for study and examination in 2027 in this subject, or in any other Leaving Certificate subject.**  
While each of the following terms; ‘features’, ‘conventions’ or ‘techniques’ may be used individually or together, the term characteristic(s) is understood to mean one or more features, conventions or techniques associated with any focus of study.

**(a)**

**Unprescribed Drama/Theatre**

Name your unprescribed focus of study in drama/theatre.  
Identify **one** characteristic associated with this focus of study that appealed to you **and** explain why you found it appealing. Support your explanation with examples from at least **one** performance, scene or extract that you explored from your unprescribed focus of study in drama/theatre.

Unprescribed focus of study in drama/theatre:
Characteristic:
Explanation and Examples:

*This question continues on the next page*



**(b)**

**Unprescribed Film**

Identify your unprescribed focus of study in film. Name **one** characteristic associated with this focus of study that appealed to you **and** explain why you found it appealing. Support your answer with examples from at least **one** clip or extract from your unprescribed focus of study in film.

Unprescribed focus of study in film:
Characteristic:
Explanation and Examples:

*This question continues on the next page*



Answer **Question 3** Prescribed Drama/Theatre, and **Question 4** Prescribed Film.

Please note:

For the purpose of assessment, in **Section B** the term **focus of study** is understood to represent the prescribed genres/ periods/ styles/ forms you have studied.

While each of the following terms; 'features', 'conventions' or 'techniques' may be used individually or together, the term characteristic(s) is understood to mean one or more features, conventions or techniques associated with any focus of study.

### Question 3

### Prescribed Drama/Theatre

Answer **either** (a) **or** (b).

**(a)** Answer parts (i) **and** (ii).

**(80 marks)**

Examine the still image associated with your focus of study in prescribed drama/theatre provided in either **Figure B1** or **Figure B2** or **Figure B3** in Paper X.

- (i)** Name your focus of study in prescribed drama/theatre. Discuss the interaction between at least **two** characters in the appropriate image, based on the actors' use of movement/spatial awareness **and** gesture.
- (ii)** Discuss the interaction between the same two **or** two different characters at another moment in the set play, based on the actors' use of movement/spatial awareness **and** gesture.

**OR**

**(b)** Answer **one** of the following: (i) **or** (ii) **or** (iii).

**(80 marks)**

- (i)** Set Play: *Mosquitoes* by Lucy Kirkwood, directed by Rufus Norris for The National Theatre.

Describe **two** techniques you would use when directing a 'non end-on theatre staging' piece of theatre **and** explain the reasons why you would use each of them. Support your answer with reference to the designated performance of *Mosquitoes* and **one** scene or extract from another performance in this focus of study.

**OR**

- (ii)** Set Play: *The Shadow of a Gunman* by Sean O'Casey, directed by Garry Hynes for Druid.

Describe **two** techniques you would use when directing a tragicomedy for theatre **and** explain the reasons why you would use each of them. Support your answer with reference to the designated performance of *The Shadow of a Gunman* and **one** scene or extract from another performance in this focus of study.

*This question continues on the next page*

**OR**

**(iii)** Set Play: *Tóraíocht* by Philip Doherty, directed by Mikel Murfi for Fíbín sa Taibhdhearc.

Describe **two** techniques you would use when directing a piece of theatre using ‘non-naturalistic production elements’ **and** explain why you would use each of them. Support your answer with reference to the designated performance of *Tóraíocht* and **one** scene or extract from another performance in this focus of study.

Tick (✓) the relevant box to indicate which question part you are answering.

3(a)

3(b)(i)

3(b)(ii)

3(b)(iii)

You may use this space for sketching/planning/roughwork.

*This question continues on the next page*

Tick (✓) the relevant box to indicate which question part you are answering.

3(a) <input type="checkbox"/>	3(b)(i) <input type="checkbox"/>	3(b)(ii) <input type="checkbox"/>	3(b)(iii) <input type="checkbox"/>

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#### Question 4

#### Prescribed Film

Answer **either** (a) **or** (b).

(a)

(80 marks)

Examine the still image associated with your focus of study in prescribed film provided in either **Figure C1** or **Figure C2** or **Figure C3** in Paper X.

Name your focus of your study in prescribed film. Explain the role of props **and** costumes in the prescribed film using **one** example from the appropriate still image and **one** example from another moment in the film.

You must use one example for props **and** one example for costume related to the appropriate still image. You must also use one example for props **and** one example for costume from another moment in the film.

OR

(b)

(80 marks)

Do you agree that location is used effectively to 'set the scene' in the prescribed film that you have studied? Explain your response with at least **two** examples from your prescribed film and **one** example from another film in this focus of study.

Answer this question with reference to **one** of the following:

- (i) Focus of study: **Style** - The directorial style of Steven Spielberg  
Film: *Jaws*

OR

- (ii) Focus of study: **Genre** - European Art Cinema  
Film: *An Cailín Ciúin*

OR

- (iii) Focus of study: **Genre** - Romance  
Film: *Past Lives*.

*This question continues on the next page*

Tick (✓) the relevant box to indicate which question part you are answering.

4(a)

4(b)(i)

4(b)(ii)

4(b)(iii)

You may use this space for sketching/planning/roughwork.

*This question continues on the next page*




*This question continues on the next page*



**Question 5**Answer **either** (a) **or** (b).**(a)****(40 marks)**

Name a live theatrical performance **or** a cinema screening that you attended during the course of your studies in Drama, Film and Theatre, **and** describe your experience of the production based on **two** of the following:

- light
- choreography
- props
- costume
- the performance of an actor.

Tick (✓) the relevant box to indicate what you are answering on.

light  choreography  props  costume  an actor 


*This question continues on the next page*



**OR**

**(b)** Answer parts (i) **and** (ii).

**(40 marks)**

Reflect on your visit to the theatre during the course of your studies in Drama, Film and Theatre.

Answer the following questions in relation to this visit:

- (i)** Identify the production you attended and outline **three** reasons why your experience of this production does **or** does not make you want to attend more live theatrical performances.


*This question continues on the next page*





Indicate clearly the question number and part of the question(s) you are answering.

## Space for roughwork

Indicate clearly the question number and part of the question(s) you are answering.

Indicate clearly the question number and part of the question(s) you are answering.

## Acknowledgements

Q1(a). **Figure A:** Image from Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, Columbia Pictures, November 13, 1992 (United States).

Q1(d). [www.vocabulary.com](http://www.vocabulary.com).

Q3(a). **Figure B1:** Image from *Mosquitoes*, National Theatre Live, 2017 (playwright Lucy Kirkwood, director Rufus Norris); **Figure B2:** Image from *The Shadow of a Gunman* by Druid, 2023 (playwright Sean O'Casey, director Garry Hynes); **Figure B3:** Image from *Fíbin sa Taibhdhearc* of *Tóraíocht*, 2018 (playwright Philip Doherty, director Mikel Murfi).

Q4(a). **Figure C1:** Image from *Jaws* (1975) *Jaws* © 1975 Universal Studios, Inc. All Rights Reserved; **Figure C2:** image from *An Cailín Ciúin* (2022) AAC: © 2022 Break Out Pictures; **Figure C3:** Image from *Past Lives* (2023) © 2022 Twenty Years Rights LLC. All Rights.

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Leaving Certificate Examination – Ordinary Level

## Drama, Film and Theatre Studies

Sample 2

2 hours 30 minutes