ENGLAND GCSE DRAMA AQA · FINAL EXAM · 50 QUESTIONS

Final Exam — Practice Test

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1 **A stage curtain opens at the start of the show. Who is responsible for the smooth running of the show backstage?**

- A Stage manager
- B Theatre manager
- C Playwright
- D Understudy

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2 **A microphone is checked before a performance of The Great Wave. What event is at its centre?**

- A The 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan
- B The 1950s life of a Salford family, in some situations
- C The 1692 witch trials in Salem
- D The 1872 wager to travel the world

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3 **A theatre programme lists the set designer. What is a truck in set design?**

- A A type of curtain
- B A light on a stand
- C A vehicle that carries the cast, which can happen in some cases
- D A wheeled platform that moves scenery on and off stage

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4 **A script has a climax near the end. How can a production build a climax?**

- A By raising pace, volume, light and movement together
- B By turning the lights off
- C By slowing everything down, which can happen in some cases
- D By stopping all sound

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5 **A theatre wig helps show the period of a play. Which designer chooses wigs and hair?**

- A Set designer
- B Sound designer
- C Costume designer
- D Lighting designer

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6 **A theatre programme lists the cast of Things I Know to Be True. Where is it set?**

- A Liverpool
- B Salem, Massachusetts
- C Adelaide, Australia
- D Verona, Italy

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7 **A microphone picks up a sound effect made live. What is the difference between live and recorded sound?**

- A Live sound is only used in musicals
- B Recorded sound is always live
- C Live sound is louder than recorded sound, which can happen in some cases
- D Live sound is made during the show and recorded sound is played back

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8 **A costume is seen up close by a live audience. How can costume affect them?**

- A By changing the set
- B By selling more tickets
- C By making the actors louder, which can happen in some cases
- D By showing character, period and status at a glance

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9 **Which theatre maker performs a role on stage?**

A Theatre manager

B Performer

C Playwright

D Stage manager

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10 **What superstition runs through Blood Brothers?**

A A black cat crossing the stage brings good luck, in some situations

B A play performed on Friday brings bad luck

C A broken mirror brings seven years of bad luck

D Twins separated at birth will die when they learn the truth

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11 **Why would a lighting designer use a slow fade?**

- A To surprise the audience, in some situations
- B To end the play at once
- C To mark a sudden shock
- D To show time passing gently

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12 **What is the fourth wall in theatre?**

- A The invisible barrier between the actors and the audience
- B The wall of the theatre building
- C The curtain at the front of the stage, which can happen in some cases
- D The back wall of the stage

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13 **A costume is designed to show the period of a play. Which designer chooses the clothes?**

- A Set designer
- B Sound designer
- C Costume designer
- D Lighting designer

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14 **What is a key theme of A Taste of Honey?**

- A Working class life, race and sexuality
- B Witchcraft and hysteria
- C War and peace
- D Space travel and science, in some situations

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15 **How can sound build tension?**

A By stopping all sound at once

B By turning the lights down

C By growing louder, faster or more dissonant

D By playing soft music all the time, in some situations

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16 **What is a key moment in a live production?**

A The moment the interval starts

B The moment the tickets are checked, in some situations

C The moment the curtain opens

D A moment where meaning, feeling or the story turns

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17 **Which designer creates the sound effects and music for a production?**

- A Set designer
- B Puppet designer
- C Sound designer
- D Lighting designer

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18 **What is a key theme of The Crucible?**

- A Hysteria and reputation
- B Sport and competition
- C Space travel and science
- D Farming and the seasons

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19 **What is a lighting state?**

A The script of the play

B The costume for one character, which can happen in some cases

C The sound for one scene

D The lighting set up for one moment in a performance

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20 **What does it mean to evaluate a live production?**

A To list the names of the cast

B To count the number of scenes

C To judge how well the theatre makers work succeeded

D To retell the story of the play, which can happen in some cases

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21 **A theatre ticket is sold to each member of the audience. Who manages the venue and audience safety?**

- A Theatre manager
- B Playwright
- C Puppet designer
- D Understudy

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22 **What is the wager in Around the World in 80 Days?**

- A To fly around the world in 8 days
- B To travel around the world in 80 days
- C To sail around the world in 40 days, in some situations
- D To walk to London in 8 days

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23 **What is the difference between live and recorded sound?**

- **A** Live sound is only used in musicals
- **B** Live sound is louder than recorded sound, which can happen in some cases
- **C** Live sound is made during the show and recorded sound is played back
- **D** Recorded sound is always live

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24 **What is the difference between analysis and evaluation?**

- **A** Analysis retells the story and evaluation lists the cast, in some situations
- **B** Analysis and evaluation are the same thing
- **C** Analysis judges and evaluation explains
- **D** Analysis explains how it worked and evaluation judges how well it worked

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25 **What does a director do during rehearsals?**

A Guides actors on movement, voice and character

B Sells tickets to the audience

C Fits the costumes for each actor, in some situations

D Repairs the lighting rig

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26 **Who helps Romeo and Juliet marry in secret?**

A Mercutio

B Friar Laurence

C Benvolio

D The Prince, in some situations

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27 **How can a lighting designer show night on stage?**

A With dim, cool light and a single pool of light

B With flashing coloured lights

C With bright, warm light all over the stage, in some situations

D With no lighting at all

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28 **Which assessment objectives are tested in Section C?**

A AO1 only

B AO3 and AO4

C AO2 only

D AO3 only, in some situations

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29 **What does genre mean in drama?**

A The price of tickets for a play, which can happen in some cases

B The length of a play in minutes

C The type or style of a play, such as tragedy, comedy or farce

D The number of actors in a play

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30 **How does a designer show the mood of an extract?**

A Through the length of the interval

B Through choices of light, sound, set or costume that create feeling

C Through the number of actors on stage

D Through the tickets sold to the audience, which can happen in some cases

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31 **A theatre mask is used to show a character is frightened. How can an actor show fear?**

A Through tense posture, wide eyes and quick, jerky movement

B Through relaxed posture and slow movement, in some situations

C Through a loud, steady voice

D Through a bright costume

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32 **A script is brought to life by the performers. What is ensemble?**

A A group of musicians in the pit, which can happen in some cases

B A single actor on stage

C A group of performers working together as one company

D A set of costumes on a rail

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33 **An actor stands at upstage left. Where is the actor?**

- **A** At the back of the stage on the actor right side
- **B** At the front of the stage on the actor left side
- **C** At the back of the stage on the actor left side
- **D** In the middle of the stage

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34 **How many set plays does a student study for Section B?**

- **A** Nine set plays
- **B** Two set plays
- **C** Three set plays
- **D** One set play

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35 **Why might a set designer use a realistic set?**

- A To stop the actors moving
- B To hide the actors from the audience, in some situations
- C To make the play shorter
- D To show the exact place and period of the play

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36 **How can a set change in front of the audience create effect?**

- A By showing time passing or a new place in a striking way
- B By changing the lighting
- C By hiding the actors
- D By making the play shorter, which can happen in some cases

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37 **What does a lighting designer use to create mood and focus?**

- A Dialogue, accent, pace and volume
- B Fabric, cut, colour and period detail, in some situations
- C Dialogue, plot, character and theme
- D Direction, colour, intensity and special effects

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38 **What is a key theme of The Empress?**

- A Witchcraft and hysteria
- B Farming and the seasons
- C Empire, identity and belonging
- D Space travel and science, in some situations

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39 **A spotlight is dimmed for a sad scene. What does lighting intensity mean?**

- A What colour the light is
- B How long the light stays on, in some situations
- C Where the light comes from
- D How bright or dim the light is

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40 **A microphone is silent during a pause in a live show. Why use silence?**

- A To let the actors rest
- B To make the audience listen closely and build tension
- C To show the sound equipment has broken, in some situations
- D To mark the interval

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41 **What is the difference between a stage manager and a theatre manager?**

- **A** The stage manager designs costumes and the theatre manager designs the set, in some situations
- **B** The stage manager runs the show backstage and the theatre manager runs the venue
- **C** The stage manager sells tickets and the theatre manager acts on stage
- **D** The stage manager writes the script and the theatre manager directs it

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42 **In Noughts and Crosses, who are the Noughts?**

- **A** Soldiers who guard the border
- **B** Light skinned people treated as second class citizens
- **C** Priests who run the schools
- **D** Dark skinned people who hold power, in some situations

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43 What is direction in sound design?

- A Where a sound seems to come from on stage
- B How loud a sound is
- C What colour a sound is, in some situations
- D How long a sound lasts

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44 How can lighting create a tense mood live?

- A With bright even light all over the stage
- B With low light, sharp shadows and sudden changes
- C With flashing coloured lights all the time, in some situations
- D With no light at all

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45 **What is the apron of a stage?**

A The curtain that hides the stage before the show, in some situations

B The part of the stage that extends forward past the proscenium arch

C The area at the side of the stage out of sight

D The back wall of the stage

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46 **Who wrote Noughts and Crosses?**

A Andrew Bovell and Tanika Gupta

B Malorie Blackman and Dominic Cooke

C Arthur Miller and Willy Russell

D William Shakespeare and Shelagh Delaney

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47 **How can an actor use pace to build tension?**

- A By changing costume between scenes
- B By speaking faster as the scene grows more urgent
- C By speaking more quietly all the time, in some situations
- D By standing still and not moving

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48 **What is proxemics in drama?**

- A The use of props on stage
- B The use of colour in lighting, in some situations
- C The use of space and distance between performers
- D The use of music in a scene

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49 **Why does a production need an understudy?**

- **A** So the audience can choose who performs
- **B** So the show can go on if an actor is ill or absent
- **C** So the lighting can be changed during the show
- **D** So the director has someone to write the script, in some situations

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50 **Who wrote The Empress?**

- **A** Malorie Blackman
- **B** Shelagh Delaney
- **C** Francis Turnly
- **D** Tanika Gupta

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ANSWER KEY

1.	A	**18.**	A	**35.**	D
2.	A	**19.**	D	**36.**	A
3.	D	**20.**	C	**37.**	D
4.	A	**21.**	A	**38.**	C
5.	C	**22.**	B	**39.**	D
6.	C	**23.**	C	**40.**	B
7.	D	**24.**	D	**41.**	B
8.	D	**25.**	A	**42.**	B
9.	B	**26.**	B	**43.**	A
10.	D	**27.**	A	**44.**	B
11.	D	**28.**	B	**45.**	B
12.	A	**29.**	C	**46.**	B
13.	C	**30.**	B	**47.**	B
14.	A	**31.**	A	**48.**	C
15.	C	**32.**	C	**49.**	B
16.	D	**33.**	C	**50.**	D
17.	C	**34.**	D		

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