

How to Succeed in Drama

Course Information



Exam Board	AQA
Exam Structure	Component 1: Written Exam 40% (Friday 8th May 2026 PM) Component 2: NEA Devising Drama 40% (internally assessed; externally moderated) Component 3: Scripted practical exam 20% (Wednesday 25th February 2026)
Specification link	https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/drama/gcse/drama-8261/specification
Practice exam papers weblink	https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/drama/gcse/drama-8261/assessment-resources?secondaryResourceType=Question+papers
Units/Topics studied	
Component 2: NEA Devising Drama is complete; students have completed their performance and their written devising log. Component 3 – Scripted practical exam is complete; students performed to the external examiner for assessment. Component 1 – Written Exam is not yet complete. This is the Component for which revision needs to be completed. Section A: Four multiple choice questions – 4 marks available <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questions to cover knowledge of - Drama terminology; Drama skills; Drama techniques; Technical Theatre; Roles and responsibilities within Theatre Section B: Blood Brothers – 44 marks available <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6.1 = 4 mark question: Designer question to include knowledge of the context of the play.• 6.2 = 8 mark question: Performer question based on one line of the play – vocal and physical skills• 6.3 = 12 mark question: Performer question based on a shaded extract of the play – use of space and interaction skills• 6.4 = 20 mark questions: Performer question (different role to questions 6.2 and 6.3) based on your interpretation of character in the extract and the overall play Section C: Live Theatre Review – 32 marks for one extended essay (<i>answer this first in the exam!</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation and analysis of a live theatre performance. Students have been to see ‘Stranger Things’ on 9th January 2026.	
Revision strategies and materials:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GCSE Pod Blood Brothers - https://members.gcsepod.com/shared/podcasts/title/11765/72599• CGP Revision Book, Key Drama knowledge - https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/drama/dmr41-gcse-drama-revision-guide?srsId=AfmBOooVVbxOZtludw2JKaikXfYHdHUUIWy9cROEQyzdvyr6qghE49T2• CGP Revision Book, Blood Brothers - https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/drama/dmpbb41-gcse-drama-play-guide-blood-brothers?srsId=AfmBOoo6Flpm8n9VrQhRkmnZMdhY6fbb0UjYOSKp6jVMdH4_UMzfE1e9• BBC Bitesize - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zrnjwty <p><i>The Blood Brothers revision guide and key Drama knowledge guide have been provided to students free of charge. If this has been lost, you will need to purchase this.</i></p>	