

RIAM EXAMS

Speech and Drama Senior Certificate Paper

November 2024

Please attempt **FOUR** Questions
Answer Questions 1 and 2, and any two others.

Exam Duration: 2 hours

Candidates must not reference the same material in more than one Question

1. Reflect on a time when you participated in a drama exercise involving mime, improvisation, or devising. Describe how this experience impacted your understanding of acting or storytelling. In what ways, if any, do you see mime and improvisation as being advantageous to a drama student's development?
2. Consider how the performance techniques used in poetry and prose differ. Select a poet whose work resonates with you personally. Discuss how their language, structure, and rhythm impact you emotionally and how you would convey this impact in a performance. Refer to specific lines or passages that evoke a strong response in you and explain how you would express that feeling on stage.
3. Imagine that you are preparing to perform a challenging character from a published play. Drawing inspiration from an actor whose work you admire, outline your personal approach to understanding and embodying this character. Describe specific steps that you would take to connect with the character's inner world to further enhance your performance.
4. Explain in your own words, using detail from your own experiences and knowledge from your drama lessons, how breath control, relaxation, and posture contribute to effective performance and communication in drama.
5. Select a poet, author or playwright that you have studied. Describe their contributions to drama and literature, using specific examples from their works and your own learning and personal analysis.
6. "*All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players*" (William Shakespeare). Based on this idea, analyse the language used by Shakespeare and compare the portrayal of two contrasting characters from any of his plays. Use specific examples to support your answer.

