

A Level Drama

SIL Year 12-13

Section A

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time – 5 tasks

You will find all the documents in your teams – files – SIL folder.

Task 1

Go to the SIL folder : [How to Draw a Ground Plan.pptx](#)

Ground Plan – Using the above guide **Draw and label** ground plans of **4 different staging configurations**: Submit a photo of each labelled sketch.

- a. Audience position and direction
- b. Entrances/exits
- c. Back wall
- d. Centre line
- e. Audience sightlines
- f. Title of the type of stage at the top

Task 2

Go to the SIL folder: [Curious Exam TES Support Booklet.pptx](#) and read about the 1.original production, 2.synopsis, 3.structure, 4.themes in the play p. 4-10 and **make notes on each of them.**

Task 3 – Seminars:

You are going to deliver seminars to the class using the text from the play's opening. Extract is on pages 3, 4 and 5 (concluding on the stage direction: *happened*). Use this extract for the following tasks

Read the handouts on **sound**: [Curious 4 Sound.pdf](#)

Prepare notes on how you would use **3 sound effects** in your extract – for each sound you will tell us:

- Where they start and stop
- What ATMOSPHERE do you want to create
- Fade in or out?
- Volume and any changes?
- Speaker positioning?
- Live or recorded?
- Diegetic or non-diegetic?
- Effects reverb/echo

Task 4

Read notes on lighting in the following handout (teams folder) [Curious 3 Lighting.pdf](#)

Make notes on your ideas and prepare to tell us about **2 lighting states**:

When the lighting cue starts and ends

- Lantern type
- Intensity
- Lantern position
- Gel – colour symbolism
- Gobo (only in Profile lantern and intelligent MAC)
- Wash/spot to give selected focus
- Fade in/fade out quickly/slowly

Task 5

Prepare **2 costume designs** for three of the characters in the extract.
Read the notes on costume design (teams folder) [Curious 5 Costume.pdf](#).
In your seminar you will tell us:

- Style - this will be naturalistic?
- Colours/ colour symbolism
- Choice of Materials
- How the actor wears the item – loose/ hanging out/ tight/ too short/too long/too large/ too small
- Shoes
- Textures
- Cheap/ expensive fabric
- Faded/ like new - ironed/ creased
- Patterned bold/bright/plain
- Clean/stained/ripped

Task 6

Read about **staging the play** and start to list ideas of how you may design a set for a production of Curious.

Create a Concept
Themes you are influenced by
Period

Staging Type

Style of set

Themes

Location:

Colour symbolism

Entrances/Exits

Rostra and Levels

Furniture

Backdrops

Use of AV/Projection

Floor

SECTION B

Component 2 Performance Preparation

In Component 2 you will perform TWO pieces of theatre for a visiting examiner and live audience.

Your first performance will be an extract from a play for two characters – a duologue - from any published play that will work in the Naturalistic style. (keeping the fourth wall)

The performance needs to last between 6 - 9 minutes - very approximately 5/7 pages of script.

It will be for yourself and one other actor.

This will be performed in the style of Naturalism (achieve truth! - you and the audience need to believe in the characters and action)

The scene/extract and must provide opportunities for you and your partner to showcase your outstanding Naturalistic acting skills.

Research and list any **contexts and themes** (social/cultural/ historical/ political) that exist in the play.

Consider and list how you might make your performance **topical and engaging**.

I have uploaded several videos that make suggestions for play choices.

The task may be easier to find if you search for plays with two actors.

Step one

Choose one suitable play extract that you would like to perform.

Step two

Apply **Stanislavski's technique of Actioning** to the extract by

- a) Make a photocopy/scan of the script so you can write on it.
- b) Dividing the play into **Units**
- c) Give each **Unit a concise title**
- d) **Give each Unit ONE Objective for each character** (e.g. If you have divided the extract into eight units then list eight Objectives for character A, **and** eight Objectives for character B)

To find the start and end of a new Unit look for changes in subject matter/ changes in relationship/changes in status/changes in atmospheres/entrance and exit of a character. 'What does my character want to achieve?' When writing an Objective keep it brief and to the point and use the words 'want' and 'because' e.g. 'I **want** to leave the room **because** I'm meeting Sue' or 'I **want** to distract him **because** I need to steal the purse'.

C2 TASK: Produce a five-minute pitch to give to your peers about why you think it is a good play extract to develop for C2.

Structure for your pitch – you must follow this:

1. Start your pitch with a brief outline of the **plot**. 3 sentences
2. Give an insight into the **playwright's** background/influences. 3 sentences.

3. Give an insight into a couple of important **contexts**. 3 sentences.
4. Give an insight about the **characters in your chosen extract**. 4 sentences.
5. Give an insight into **what is happening** in your chosen extract. 3 sentences.
6. Give an insight as to why the extract would work well with Stanislavski. 2 sentences.
6. Explain **why** you think it's a positive, potentially successful choice for the C2 exam. 4 sentences.

SECTION C

Revision materials

Please work on creating the following materials to aid your revision - you have already completed several of them but now complete the list and compile the information into one 'Revision Folder' with TWO SECTIONS, one for each play.

You can either add this work to TEAMS files or create work for your folders. You must show this revision work the first week back.

One set for **Hedda** and one set for **Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time**.

- Create flashcards for lighting and sound terminology.
- Create flashcards for costumes, hair and makeup terminology.
- Create flashcards for set and props terminology.
- Create flashcards for acting terminology.
- Create flashcards for directing terminology.
- Create flash cards for ground plans and staging.
- Create a practitioner mind map or revision map for Stanislavski - including rehearsal techniques, add terminology.

- Rewatch your chosen National Theatre productions.
- Use Memrise and quizlet to test yourself on all relevant terminology.
- Use BBC bitesize and Spark notes quizzes to test and recall your knowledge on both Hedda Gabler and Curious plays.

Reflecting Learners are required to explain the process of creating their piece of theatre, outlining how they apply research from stage 1 to the development of the piece in stage 2. To this end, learners are required to produce a creative log which explains:

1. how ideas are created and developed to communicate meaning as part of the theatre making process, including:

- a) how conventions, b) forms and c) techniques are used in the piece
- how ideas are a) created, b) developed and c) refined

2. the connections between dramatic theory and practice, including a) research on the extract in context and b) research on the company - and how this relevant research is applied to the piece.