



## MIME

### GENERAL OBJECTIVES

This Mime Syllabus seeks to offer Learners the opportunity to:

- Develop imagination and creativity
- Increase self-confidence
- Develop physical stage techniques
- Instill an enthusiasm and interest in the theatre
- Extend technical skills with poise and clarity
- Promote observation and attention to detail
- Encourage background study of the history of mime

### Guidelines for Mime Learners

- Costume or make up is not permitted, although suggestion of costume (eg shawls, practice skirt or hat) and hand props are allowed (eg fans, bags, walking sticks, etc).
- Learners are not permitted to present work which they have already submitted at another grade. Learners found to be repeating work will be disqualified and fees will be forfeited.
- In line with current standard Health and Safety advice, all Learners should ensure they are warmed up physically before the examination.
- Any mime may be performed with musical accompaniment if desired but this must be operated by the Learner/s.
- Entries are welcomed from Learners who may be hard of hearing, deaf or who have oral communication difficulties. We can arrange for these Learners to have a short written questionnaire immediately prior to the examination if questioning is an element of the examination. **Please contact the NEA Office to make these special arrangements.**

### SOLO

#### ENTRY LEVEL

At this Level and at Section 1 no piece should exceed 2 minutes, and at Section 2 no piece should exceed 3 minutes.

Marks at this Level include taking into consideration technique and interpretation throughout each section:

Entry Level	Technique and Interpretation	
Preparatory	50	50
Introductory	50	50
Preliminary	50	50
Transition	50	50

### **PREPARATORY GRADE (10 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Open a present and mime the contents.
2. Perform a narrative mime on a subject of their own choice.

### **INTRODUCTORY GRADE (10 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Prepare an exercise showing an occupation of their own choice.
2. Perform a narrative mime on a subject of their own choice.

### **PRELIMINARY GRADE (10 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Prepare an exercise showing an outdoor occupation of their own choice.
1. Perform a narrative mime on a subject of their own choice.

### **TRANSITION GRADE (10 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Choose and perform one of the following:
  - Dismantle a lego building, separating all the bricks?
  - Build a snowman.
  - Walk along a narrow ledge.
2. Perform a narrative mime of their own choice.

## **LEVEL 1 – FOUNDATION**

*The Ellen Ismay Certificate of Excellence  
Is awarded annually to the Learner gaining the highest Distinction mark in this examination.*

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique and interpretation throughout each section:

<b>Foundation - Level 1</b>	<b>Technique and Interpretation</b>		
Grade 1	50		50
Grade 2	50		50
Grade 3	30	30	40

### **GRADE 1 (10 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Choose one of the following – (Time limit 2 minutes):
  - Thread some beads and make a necklace.
  - You find a bottle washed up on a shore. There is a message inside.
  - Plant a shrub in the garden.
2. Perform a narrative mime of their own choice - (Time limit 3 minutes).

### **GRADE 2 (10 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Choose an episode to illustrate one of the following - (Time limit 2 minutes):
  - Taking a ride on a roller coaster.
  - Walking on stones across a swift-flowing river. You run out of stones.
  - Playing a board game.
1. Perform a narrative mime of their own choice. (Time limit 3 minutes).

**GRADE 3 Foundation Medal (15 Minutes)**

*The Ellen Ismay Certificate of Excellence  
Is awarded annually to the Learner gaining the highest Distinction mark in this examination.*

Learners should:

1. Perform two of the specified actions - (Time limit 3 minutes):
  - Replace the batteries in a torch – it has become stiff through age.
  - Be a puppet worked by invisible hands.
  - Unwrap a very sticky sweet. You cannot get off all the paper.
2. Perform two of the following - (Time limit 2 minutes):
  - You are watching a scary movie when you hear a noise outside.
  - Your phone has been confiscated. Has your teacher hidden it?
  - While playing ball with a friend you break a neighbour's window.
3. Perform a narrative mime illustrating a well-known proverb or saying - (Time limit 3 minutes):

## **LEVEL 2 – INTERMEDIATE**

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique and interpretation throughout each section:

<b>Intermediate – Level 2</b>	<b>Technique and Interpretation</b>		
Grade 4	30	30	40
Grade 5	30	30	40

### **GRADE 4 (15 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Perform two of the following - (Time limit 3 minutes):
  - Buy and eat an ice-cream
  - Put on a cosy coat. What is inside the pockets?
  - Be a participant in a game of pass the parcel.
2. Perform a mime on one of the following - (Time limit 3 minutes):
  - Incident at the clothes shop.
  - The photographer.
  - At the hairdressers.
3. Perform a narrative mime with a twist at the end - (Time limit 4 minutes).

### **GRADE 5 (20 Minutes)**

Learners should perform:

1. The following three specific actions, paying particular attention to - (Time limit 4 minutes):
  - **The dexterity of hands**, thread a needle and sew up a small hole in a garment?
  - **Weight and Tension**, pack a rucksack ready for a trip. Are you taking too much?.
  - **Face**, at a serious concert you get an attack of hiccoughs. Can you stop them.
2. Depict two of the following - (Time limit 3 minutes for 2 episodes):
  - Coming home late you try not to disturb anyone.
  - Paint a picture – is there a model?
  - 'Caught in the act'
3. Perform a narrative mime with an abstract theme - (Time limit 4 minutes).

### **LEVEL 3 – ADVANCED**

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique and interpretation throughout each section:

<b>Advanced – Level 3</b>	<b>Technique and Interpretation</b>				<b>Discussion</b>
Grade 6	30	25	25		20
Grade 7	40		40		20
Grade 8	20	20	20	20	20

### **GRADE 6 Bronze Medal (20 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Present a character from the Industrial Revolution, clearly showing costume, movement and the use of properties appropriate to the period - (Time limit 3 minutes).
2. Present a present day narrative mime - (Time limit 3 minutes).
3. Present a narrative mime depicting a character in an age group other than the Learner's own - (Time limit 3 minutes).
4. Discuss with the Examiner the creation of mimed characters

### **GRADE 7 Silver Medal ( 25 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Present two contrasting characters from the Elizabethan Era - (Time limit 3 minutes for each):
  - One must be engaged in some form of evening pursuit
  - The other must be a narrative mime based on or around an occupation.
2. Perform a narrative mime of their own choice peopled with 3 different characters. One of these characters should be from a different culture from their own - (Time limit 5 minutes).
3. Discuss with the Examiner relaxation, movement and timing.

### **GRADE 8 Gold Medal (30 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Present two characters, one from the Restoration era, and the second from the 1940's. These characters should be shown in episodes which clearly indicate both the character's background and costume - (Time limit 3 minutes for each episode).
2. Perform an impromptu occupational mime, the title of which will be given to the Learner in the examination room - (Time limit 2 minutes).
3. Present a character of their own age as a continuous mime showing - (Time limit 6 minutes for all four):
  - Confusion
  - Fear
  - Hysteria; and
  - Relief.
4. Present a narrative mime on a subject given to them 10 minutes before the examination - (Time limit 4 minutes).
5. Discuss with the Examiner any aspects of creating and performing mime.



## **DUOLOGUES**

### **GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

The Duologue section of this Syllabus provides Learners with the opportunity to:

- Work with a partner
- Increase confidence
- Understand a sense of dependency

### **Guidelines for Mime Duologue Learners**

- Learners may enter for the Mime examinations as specified above in Duologue form up to and including Grade 8.
- Duologues are marked as one performance. The criteria for marking Duologues are the same as that for the Solo Grades.
- All selections must be in duologue form.
- Learners should put the word **Duologue** on their entry form together with the name of the Learner with whom they are entering.

## **GROUP EXAMINATIONS**

### **GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

The Group Mime section of this Syllabus provides Learners with the opportunity to:

- Experience the exciting challenge of working together as a team
- Demonstrate an awareness of each other and a sense of sharing
- Demonstrate co-ordination and timing

### **Guidelines for Mime Group Learners**

- A group must contain a minimum of three persons and up to a maximum of twelve persons and will be marked as one performance. If it is intended to enter a larger group, please contact the NEA Office first.

### **ENTRY LEVEL**

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique and interpretation throughout each section:

<b>Entry Level</b>	<b>Technique and Interpretation</b>	
Preparatory	50	50
Introductory	50	50
Preliminary	50	50
Transition	50	50

### **PREPARATORY GRADE (10 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Create a mime based on a happy family event. (Time limit 2 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice. (Time limit 3 minutes)

### **INTRODUCTORY GRADE (10 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Create a mime based on a well-known nursery rhyme. (Time limit 2 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice. (Time limit 3 minutes)

### **PRELIMINARY GRADE (10 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Create a mime based on a well-known fairy tale. (Time limit 2 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice. (Time limit 3 minutes)

**TRANSITION GRADE (10 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Create a mime based on a well-known story. (Time limit 2 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice. (Time limit 3 minutes)

## **LEVEL 1 – FOUNDATION**

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique and interpretation throughout each section:

<b>Foundation – Level 1</b>	<b>Technique and Interpretation</b>	
Grade 1	50	50
Grade 2	50	50
Grade 3	50	50

### **GRADE 1 (15 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Present an episode on the theme of The Game - (Time limit 4 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice - (Time limit 5 minutes)

### **GRADE 2 (15 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Present an episode on the theme of In the Toyshop- (Time limit 4 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice - (Time limit 5 minutes)

### **GRADE 3 (15 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Present an episode on the theme of Blame - (Time limit 4 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice - (Time limit 5 minutes)

## **LEVEL 2 – INTERMEDIATE**

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique and interpretation throughout each section:

<b>Intermediate - Level 2</b>	<b>Technique and Interpretation</b>	
Grade 4	50	50
Grade 5	50	50

### **GRADE 4 (15 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Present an episode on the theme of Nightmare. (Time limit 4 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice. (Time limit 5 minutes)

### **GRADE 5 (15 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Present an episode where strangers meet and share a common experience (Time limit 4 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice. (Time limit 5 minutes)

### **LEVEL 3 – ADVANCED**

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique and interpretation throughout each section:

<b>Advanced - Level 3</b>	<b>Technique and Interpretation</b>		
Grade 6	50		50
Grade 7	50		50
Grade 8	30	30	40

#### **GRADE 6 (20 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Present an episode where the unexpected happens and show the range of reactions to this event. (Time limit 5 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice with a cliff-hanger ending. (Time limit 6 minutes)

#### **GRADE 7 (20 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. Present a static group depicting an episode based on At the Restaurant. (Time limit 5 minutes)
2. Present a narrative mime of their own choice with a definite comic **OR** tragic ending. (Time limit 6 minutes)

#### **GRADE 8 (25 Minutes)**

Learners should:

1. From a static group depict an episode from the Stone Age in which the participants are engaged in one of the following - (Time limit 4 minutes):
  - creating a shelter
  - preparing a meal
  - performing a ritual.
2. Show, by some happening, the change in group reaction from apathy to anger. (Time limit 4 minutes)
3. Perform a narrative mime on one of the following:
  - keep fit
  - the film set
  - journey into the unknown (Time limit 6 minutes)

