



# **New Era Academy Syllabus 2023- 2026**

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**Performance Exams**

**Devised Drama Syllabus Extract**

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# PERFORMANCE EXAMS

## Devised Drama

### General Objectives

This Devised Drama Syllabus seeks to offer Learners the opportunity to:

- Develop imagination and creativity
- Increase self-confidence
- Develop a range of stage techniques
- Instil enthusiasm and enjoyment
- Develop creative and interpretive skills
- Develop an understanding of dramatic structure and narrative
- Work spontaneously
- Employ language, movement, role and situation appropriate to the fictional context being created

**The group exam is also useful “practice” for GCSE Drama, A level Drama and Theatre Studies.**

### Guidelines for Devised Drama Learners

- The Examiner will give appropriate preparation time during the examinations for preparation of a new scene, redirection and enactment unless specifically stated.
- Full costume or make up is not permitted, although a suggestion of costume (e.g.: shawls, practice skirt or hat) and hand props are allowed. (e.g.: 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 both vocally and physically before the examination.

## Devised Drama: Solo – Entry Level

### Preparatory Grade (10 Minutes)

**Marks Awarded****Learners should:**

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Devise a scene around an object of choice.<br>(Time limit 2 minutes) | 90 |
| 2. The Examiner will question the Learner in role.                      | 10 |

<b>Total Marks Awarded</b>	<b>100</b>
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### Introductory Grade (10 Minutes)

**Marks Awarded****Learners should:**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Devise a short scene in either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Magical Kingdom</li><li>On a beach</li><li>In a playground</li></ul> (Time limit 2 minutes) | 90 |
| 2. The Examiner will question the Learner in role.   | 10 |

<b>Total Marks Awarded</b>	<b>100</b>
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### Preliminary Grade (10 Minutes)

**Marks Awarded****Learners should:**

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Devise a short scene based on a character with special or magical powers. (Time limit 2 minutes) | 90 |
| 2. The Examiner will question the Learner in role.  | 10 |

<b>Total Marks Awarded</b>	<b>100</b>
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### Transition Grade (10 Minutes)

**Marks Awarded****Learners should:**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Devise a scene involving a box, a map or a key.<br>(Time limit 2 minutes) | 90 |
| 2. The Examiner will question the Learner in role.                           | 10 |

<b>Total Marks Awarded</b>	<b>100</b>
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## Devised Drama: Solo – Level 1 Foundation

### Grade 1 (10 Minutes)

### Marks Awarded

#### Learners should:

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Devise a scene based on lost and found (Time limit 3 minutes)                | 45 |
| 2. Perform a contrasting scene with a prop of choice.<br>(Time limit 3 minutes) | 45 |
| 3. Discuss with the Examiner  | 10 |
| • The storyline of the scenes.  |    |

**Total Marks Awarded 100**

### Grade 2 (10 Minutes)

### Marks Awarded

#### Learners should:

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Devise a scene based on one of the following locations<br>(Time limit 3 minutes) | 45 |
| • Fairground  |    |
| • Garden  |    |
| • Airport   |    |
| 2. Devise a scene based on an emotion. (Time limit 3 minutes)                       | 45 |
| 3. Discuss with the Examiner  | 10 |
| • The storyline of the scenes.  |    |

**Total Marks Awarded 100**

### Grade 3 – Foundation Medal (15 Minutes)

### Marks Awarded

#### Learners should:

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Devise a scene based on a well-known proverb or different historical era. (Time limit 3 minutes) | 45 |
| 2. Perform the scene again with a different outcome/meaning.<br>(Time limit 3 minutes)              | 45 |
| 3. Discuss with the Examiner  | 10 |
| • The storyline of the scenes.  |    |

**Total Marks Awarded 100**

## Devised Drama: Solo – Level 2 Intermediate

### Grade 4 (15 Minutes)

### Marks Awarded

**Learners should:**

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Devise a scene based on one of the following:<br>(Time limit 4 minutes)                                | 40 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The secret</li> <li>• The memory</li> <li>• The diary</li> </ul> |    |
| 2. Devise a scene inspired by a picture or letter.<br>(Time limit 4 minutes)                              | 40 |
| 3. Discuss with the Examiner  | 20 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The scenes and the structure needed in devised drama.</li> </ul> |    |

<b>Total Marks Awarded</b>	<b>100</b>
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### Grade 5 (15 Minutes)

### Marks Awarded

*The Ray Winstone Certificate of Excellence is awarded annually to the Learner gaining the highest Distinction mark in this examination.*

**Learners should:**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Devise a scene based on either:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greed</li> <li>• Jealousy</li> <li>• Love</li> <li>• Hate</li> </ul> (Time limit 4 minutes) | 40 |
| 2. Devise a scene on either:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time</li> <li>• Space</li> <li>• Event</li> </ul> (Time limit 4 minutes)                          | 40 |
| 3. Discuss with the Examiner   | 20 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the scenes,</li> <li>• characters</li> <li>• process when devising original work.</li> </ul>                                      |    |

<b>Total Marks Awarded</b>	<b>100</b>
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## Devised Drama: Solo – Level 3 Advanced

### Grade 6 - Bronze Medal (20 Minutes)

**Marks Awarded**

**Learners should:**

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Devise a scene on a theme of conflict or war. (Time limit 5 minutes)   | 40 |
| 2. Devise a scene showing a change of status. (Time limit 5 minutes)  | 40 |
| 3. Discuss with the Examiner  | 20 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their roles and on their research.</li> <li>• The challenges faced when portraying characters with changing status.</li> </ul> |    |

<b>Total Marks Awarded</b>	<b>100</b>
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### Grade 7 - Silver Medal (25 Minutes)

**Marks Awarded**

**Learners should:**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Devise a scene using a piece of text, visual image or music as your stimulus. (Time limit 5 minutes)  | 40 |
| 2. Devise a scene based on a recent news event. (Time limit 5 minutes)   | 40 |
| 3. Discuss with the Examiner   | 20 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their roles and on their research.</li> <li>• The preparation and construction of the pieces</li> <li>• What are the considerations when using factual material as opposed fictional</li> </ul> |    |

<b>Total Marks Awarded</b>	<b>100</b>
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### Grade 8 - Gold Medal (30 Minutes)

**Marks Awarded**

**Learners should:**

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Devise a scene based on a historical or political event or situation. (Time limit 5 minutes)   | 40 |
| 2. Devise a scene based on an individual who is key to the event you have chosen. (Time limit 5 minutes)  | 20 |
| 3. Devise a scene as a journalist reporting the event. (Time limit 5 minutes)   | 20 |
| 4. Discuss with the Examiner  | 20 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why they chose the event</li> <li>• The explorative strategies used</li> <li>• Their research and how they reached the final Performances</li> </ul> |    |

<b>Total Marks Awarded</b>	<b>100</b>
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## Devised Drama: Duologues

The criteria for Duologue examinations are as for Solo Examinations.

Five minutes is added for each exam from Grade 3 upward

### General Objectives

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

- Work with a partner
- Explore different ideas
- Increase confidence
- Understand a sense of dependency

### Guidelines for Devised Drama Duologue Learners:

The criteria for marking Duologues are the same as that for the Solo Grades.

Learners should put the word Duologue on their entry form together with the name of the Learner with whom they are entering.



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