

BREAKDOWN OF AS2.2 - PLAYWRIGHT STUDY

Requirements

This standard requires you to explore the world and ideas of a chosen playwright. You will need to identify how, why and where these are expressed in the playwright's work. You will need to investigate one or more of the following areas:

- the social and/or historical world of the playwright as it relates to the chosen texts
- the common and/or contrasting ideas and concerns evident in the plays
- the style, structure and purpose of the plays
- the performance space and its influence on the plays

This means you will study the chosen playwright (David Geary) and that you will explore the text of at least two of their plays (*Lovelock's Dream Run* and *The Underarm*)

Assessment of 2.5 (91217)

You will need to show that you've read and explore at least **two** plays written by Geary. For this Achievement Standard the length of the performance or group sizes are not specified. However, other drama standards that offer four credits suggest two to four people working together to perform a scene 3-6 minutes in length. You are allowed to work alone, or as a group to present your findings in a drama presentation. However, in a group situation you must be able to show the examiner what work you've done to achieve the standard. This is an internally assessed standard so I will provide you with the information about the performance dates - this being in the last week of the term.

How the Achievement Standard is assessed:

You will need to present a **drama** that includes your information. Your presentation might include:

- a workshop that you lead
- a performance of sections of text with a commentary
- you could present your information as a character from one of the plays
- you could interview a student who plays the role of the playwright or you could take on the role of the playwright talking about his plays

You can also present your drama work in more traditional forms:

Written form - Presentation of a written set of notes, which may contain sketches, pictures, and/or a PowerPoint presentation

Oral form - a speech (but not always the most creative and attention keeping form!)

Achievement Criteria:

Achievement	Merit	Excellence
Examine the work of a playwright	Examine the work of a playwright showing an <i>informed</i> understanding	Examine the work of a playwright showing a <i>perceptive</i> understanding

EXPLANATION OF ACHIEVEMENT CRITERIA:

Achievement	Merit	Excellence
The student has explored the concerns of the playwright, and where and how they are expressed in his work	The student has explored the concerns of the playwright, and where and how they are expressed in his work	The student has explored the concerns of the playwright, and where and how they are expressed in his work

The student has investigated one or more of the following:

- the social and/or historical world of the playwright as it relates to the chosen texts
 - the common and/or contrasting ideas and concerns evident in the plays
 - the style, structure and purpose of the plays
 - the performance space and its influence on the plays
 - extracts from two or more texts have been examined

Achievement	Merit	Excellence
The student has presented information about the playwright through a drama presentation and has provided sufficient evidence from at least two texts to achieve the standard.	The student has presented information about the playwright through a drama presentation and has given detailed explanations and provided examples to illustrate statements. The student has used examples taken from at least two texts to articulate the playwright's ideas in detail and with clarity.	The student has presented information about the playwright through a drama presentation and has given detailed explanations and provided examples to illustrate statements. The student has used examples taken from at least two texts to articulate the playwright's ideas in detail and with clarity. The student has made insightful connections between the play and the wider world of the play and the playwright.

PROCESS: RESEARCHING THE PLAYWRIGHT

Plays are not usually written in isolation. Playwrights are influenced by the times in which they live or by events that influence them either directly or indirectly during their lifetime.

When you look at the world of the playwright and their work, remember you are doing this from the present time, which means you have an understanding of the big picture and can use hindsight.

EXAMINE THE WORK OF A PLAYWRIGHT

There are two parts to this standard:

- researching the playwright and his world
- creating a drama presentation that can present the ideas of the playwright.

These 'ideas' are explained in the Achievement Standard as being:

- the social and/or historical world of the playwright as it relates to the chosen texts
- the common and/or contrasting ideas and concerns evident in the plays
- the style, structure and purpose of the plays
- the performance space and its influence on the plays

Research the playwright's biography...

Research the playwright's plays...

Research the playwright's play's characters...

Write a timeline of events in each of the plays

Research the themes and issues evident in the plays

Look at the purpose of the plays - compare and contrast

Look at the structure of the plays - compare and contrast
(e.g. see table below...

Act 1	Characters	Date/Time	Location

Compare two scenes in each of the plays E.g. Scenes using a similar technique like the play within the play idea

Look at the influences on the plays you are studying

Research the social and/or historical world of the playwright as it relates to the chosen texts

Research the performance style and space and its influence on the plays

Compare the use of language between the playwright's plays

Explore the theme or plot and background of the plays - what type of theatre does it come out of? E.g. New Zealand Theatre (do some research on NZ Theatre)

TIP: Remember that in order to gain **EXCELLENCE** you need to make *insightful connections between the play and the wider world of the play and the playwright*

FINAL ASSESSMENT CHECKS:

Before you perform, check you have done everything you are required to do for the assessment.

You have chosen a playwright and explored the concerns of the playwright, and where and how these concerns are expressed in his work in at least two of their plays. You have presented this information about the playwright through a drama presentation.

Look at the Excellence criteria and make sure you have:

- investigated one or more of the following:
 - the social and/or historical world of the playwright as it relates to the chosen texts
 - the common and/or contrasting ideas and concerns evident in the plays
 - the style, structure and purpose of the plays
 - the performance space and its influence on the plays
- given detailed explanations and provided examples to illustrate statements
- used examples taken from at least two texts to articulate the playwright's ideas in detail and with clarity
- made insightful connections between the play and the wider world of the play and the playwright