

Commentary on candidate evidence

Candidate 1

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each element of this course assessment component.

Section 1: theatre production: text in context (Angels in America)

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **16 marks** as follows:

'a' mark awarded: Theme of disease when Prior reveals his KS lesion to Louis showing his AIDS.

'b' mark awarded: Make-up concept to make lesion visible to audience.

'A1' mark awarded: Theme of trust communicated through their relationship.

'B1' mark awarded: Acting concept to show Prior's trust due to his love for Louis.

'a' mark awarded: Theme of guilt communicated by Louis seeking out justification from Rabbi.

A1 mark awarded: Theme of religion shown by Louis turning back to his faith.

'b' mark awarded: Louis' acting concept to show his shame.

'B1' mark awarded: Louis' costume concept with overly shiny Star of David necklace to communicate religion.

'a' mark awarded: Theme of self-loathing during sexual encounter in the park.

No 'A1' as Louis' encounter and behaviour towards the stranger does not clearly communicate a lack of identity.

'b' mark awarded: Louis' acting concept to show his self-loathing.

No 'B1' for lighting as theme of identity is not being explored.

'a' mark awarded: Theme of racism when Louis generalises Belize's race.

No 'A1' as Louis actually is racist.

'b' mark awarded: Louis' acting concept to show his racism openly.

No 'B1' awarded for same reason as previous 'A1'.

'a' mark awarded: Theme of love in Prior's dream sequence with Louis.

'A1' mark awarded: Theme of isolation explored by Prior desiring human contact.

'b' mark awarded: Waltz music to show theme of love (romantic).

'B1' mark awarded: Lighting concept to show Prior's sadness and isolation.

Candidate 2

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each element of this course assessment component.

Section 2: theatre production: application

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** as follows:

- (a) Relevant description as the candidate uses confused edge of your seat impact. (1 mark)
- (b) The candidate has described Proscenium arch simple set and bed tilted to see Betty; however, this does not answer the question as they have not described the ways they would use the performance space or linked it to the desired impact described in (a). (0 marks)
- (c) The SFX of giggling and whispering as the audience is seated (implicit pre-show) does not describe the way this effect would be delivered, ie pre-recorded or live and therefore is not awarded any marks. The contrast given of completely quiet (use of silence) does achieve 1 mark as this would confuse the audience. (1 mark)

Candidate 3

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each element of this course assessment component.

Section 2: theatre production: application

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **7 marks** as follows:

- (a) Relevant description of the impact they wish to have on the audience - 'tense atmosphere', 'audience intrigued' (1 mark). Further development – 'pressure for puritans to lead perfect lives', 'judgemental of others' (1 mark).
- (b) The candidate has given a detailed/insightful description of theatre in the round to convey claustrophobia and feeling overexposed (2 marks). Further development for the characters 'frozen in position' to intrigue the audience (1 mark).
- (c) The SFX of whispering while audience are seated (implicit pre-show) does not describe the way this effect would be delivered, ie pre-recorded or live and therefore is not awarded any marks (0 marks). The description of distant singing, shouts and screams to create tension is detailed. The candidate says these SFX will be 'played' implying this effect will be pre-recorded (2 marks).

Candidate 4

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each element of this course assessment component.

Section 2: theatre production: application

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **7 marks** as follows:

- (a) Relevant description of the impact they wish to have on the audience - 'to feel fearful' (1 mark). Further development - audience to know the burial of Polynices is a dangerous task – consequences could be deadly (1 mark).
- (b) The candidate has given a basic description: use of Promenade staging to create a tense and worried atmosphere 'really close together' (1 mark). The candidate has given another basic description of the audience being 'claustrophobic and confined' (1 mark).
- (c) SFX concept of music that dramatically builds in tempo and volume; audience knows it comes with risks (2 marks). Pre-show concert of rebellious and anti-government songs (1 mark).

Section 3: performance analysis

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **18 marks** as follows:

The acting and development of characters:

'a' mark awarded: Brutus & Cassius breaking up the pre-show concert plus acting concepts.

'A1' mark awarded: Audience reaction of dislike to Brutus and Cassius.

'a' mark awarded: Cassius tries to convince Brutus to betray Caesar plus acting concepts.

'A1' mark awarded: Audience respect for Brutus.

'a' mark awarded: Caesar's attitude towards Cassius (a woman) plus acting concepts.

'A1' mark awarded: Audience dislike for Caesar and sympathy for Cassius.

'a' mark awarded: Discussion between Brutus and Cassius over killing Mark Anthony plus acting concepts.

No 'A1' as this doesn't make Brutus kinder and more caring – inaccurate interpretation.

'a' mark awarded: Portia and Brutus reaction to Portia's self-harming plus acting concepts.

'A1' mark awarded: Audience feel sympathy for Portia and anger towards Brutus.

No 'A' mark awarded for Calpurnia trying to persuade Caesar not to go to Senate; plus, candidate has already gained maximum number of A marks.

The director's intentions and effectiveness:

'b' mark awarded: Contrast in Director's use of levels to show difference between plotters and Caesar's followers. Shows the disconnect between the plotters and the people.

'B1' mark awarded: Audience dislike the plotters and feel connection to Caesar who appears to be a man of the people.

'b' mark awarded: Contrast between Caesar's entrance at beginning to his entrance to the Senate – use of placards and left-wing signs compared to red silk and throne showing Caesar may not be as he seems.

'B1' mark awarded: Audience feel distrust towards Caesar.

'b' mark awarded: Director's use of contrasting costume colours between plotters and followers to show plotters have nothing in common with the people.

No 'B1' for Mark Anthony's tracksuit as explanation of audience impact is not detailed enough.

'b' mark awarded: Contrast between the depressing deaths of the plotters and the triumphant entrance of Mark Anthony and Octavian. Director's lighting concepts and ticker tape.

'B1' mark awarded: Audience feel that the plotters got what they deserved.

'b' mark awarded: Contrast in delivery of Brutus and Mark Anthony's eulogies at Caesar's funeral. Directors choice of differing accents and acting concepts for each.

'B1' mark awarded: Audience feel drawn towards Mark Anthony as he 'appears' to have their best wishes at heart and feel that Brutus is cold and distant.

Candidate 5

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each element of this course assessment component.

Section 2: theatre production: application

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **7 marks** as follows:

- (a) Audience to feel on edge as well as interested in dialogue. (1 mark)
Also tense as they don't know which side to be on. (1 mark)
- (b) Promenade staging to make the audience more involved (1 mark), audience positioning in relation to actors: the idea of circling around them, (1 mark).
Location of dark, cold warehouse (1 mark). All of this would make an audience feel 'on edge' and 'tense'.
- (c) SFX concept of 'increase in pitch' to make audience feel uneasy and unsettled (1 mark). The use of the grungy rock song to help create anxiety in the audience (1 mark).

Section 3: performance analysis

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **16 marks** as follows:

'a' mark awarded: Contrast between atmosphere of Rock band playing and Casca's entrance plus acting concepts.

'A1' mark awarded: Casca and Cassius making the audience annoyed.

'a' mark awarded: Contrast between Cassius and Brutus when explaining plan to murder Caesar plus acting concepts.

No 'A1' as the point becomes repetitive.

'a' mark awarded: Contrast between conspirators just before they die and Mark Antony and Octavian plus acting concepts.

No 'A1' as the candidate does not fully develop the point.

'a' mark awarded: Contrast in Brutus from the start to after the assassination plus acting concept.

No 'A1' as the candidate does not fully develop the point.

'a' mark awarded: Contrast between Caesar's acting when first entering compared to in the wheelchair.

'A1' mark awarded: Audience feel sorry for Caesar as he is sacrificing his health for Rome.

'b' mark awarded: Director's use of contrasting colours in costumes to show difference between plotters and left-wing supporters of Caesar. Makes audience feel drawn towards Caesar's supporters more.

'B1' mark awarded: Further explanation of class divide being demonstrated by costumes, making the audience dislike the plotters.

'b' mark awarded: Director's use of contrasting levels to show difference between Caesar's entrance and the plotters. Creation of disconnect between the audience and the plotters – audience dislike them.

No 'B1' as impact is more of a repetition of point.

'b' mark awarded: Director's decision to use female casting for Cassius to create male-female contrast in the production, plus concept for Caesar's reaction to Cassius.

'B1' mark awarded: Audience feel empathy with Cassius and begin to distrust Caesar more.

'b' mark awarded: Contrast between the entrances of Mark Antony/Octavian's entrance and that of Caesar. Use of military tank on trucks to make audience feel uneasy as they had thought that they were similar to Caesar before.

'B1' mark awarded: Addition of ticket tape to add to the contrast and create unease as this made audience feel that they were forced to celebrate.

'b' mark awarded: Contrasting stage pictures created by director for Caesar's entrance and his death scene. Use of promenade staging to create political rally and being surrounded by support contrasting with lonely isolated death scene.

'B1' mark awarded: Audience feel sympathy for Caesar and dislike towards the plotters for smearing his blood.