

Candidate 7 evidence

2025 question paper – question 3 – Things I Know To Be True

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<p>1 (3)</p>	<p>The play 'Things I Know To Be True' by Andrew Bovell follows the story of Bob and Fran, and their children, Rosie, Pip, Ben and Mark. The play explores the key theme of family and love in its complex forms, and putting family first. Fran is a character in this play who feels many complex emotions such as anger, love, and sadness ^{core and sadness} throughout the play.</p> <p>A key scene in this play is at the start when Rosie gets back from a holiday in Berlin. Rosie</p> <p>At the start of the play Rosie gets back from a trip in Berlin. During her trip Rosie met a boy and she fell in love with him although she ended up getting her heart broken. Upon arrival back home, Fran takes one look at her and is quick to say "Did you meet someone?" before Rosie can even settle in. In this scene it's shown that Fran is feeling quite worried about her daughter and she's also concerned that something may have happened to her.</p> <p>As an actor playing Fran, I would use an upright posture to show that I'm alert and</p>

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worried about what she may say. I would also use a quiet volume and a gentle tone to try and gently pry Rosie into telling the truth about what happened. I would also make the gesture of hesitantly reaching my hand out to her as I try find out what's wrong. I would use a sympathetic facial expression to show that I know something is wrong and that I'm aware something potentially happened to Rosie while she was away. I would also raise the pitch of my voice to convey the concern I feel for her.

This would help the audience understand that Fran feels worried about Rosie and she knows that something has happened to her daughter while she was away. It shows that Fran is wanting to hear what Rosie has to say, yet has uncertainty about her daughter's wellbeing. Showing the emotion of care

As the play continues Fran's emotions run high and are shown when her daughter Pip comes home to see Fran and tell her that she

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wants to leave her husband. Fran is really angry at Pip and says "Too bad you've got kids you make it worse. Look at me and tell me there is no other man. You stupid girl!" This shows that Fran is really unhappy with Pip's decision on her husband and kids. Fran is angered by this news because back then, Fran had the same opportunity as Pip, which was to run off and go with another man, leaving Bob and the kids behind, but Fran decided to stay for her children. This causes Fran to feel rage at Pip because Pip is choosing to leave her husband and kids, but Fran missed her opportunity to do so when she had the chance.

As an actor playing Fran I would stand with my arms crossed over my chest, to show that I'm not willing to hear Pip out. I would use a loud volume to show my mounting anger. I would also use an angry tone to show the frustration I feel towards Pip as she does this. I would use a frustrated facial expression with my eyebrows furrowed to convey the negative emotions of rage that are caused by

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her revelation. I would also make the gesture of pointing a finger at Fran to show that I'm trying to get through to her and trying to prevent her from doing this. I would also turn my back to her and make the gesture of dismissively flicking my wrist to show disagreement to what Pip has said.

By doing this, it helps the audience understand that Fran isn't only angry about Pip leaving her husband, but she's also angry at her part self for not taking the opportunity in the same way Pip has done when it was presented to her before. This highlights ~~the~~ Fran's complex emotions of anger that she feels towards this situation.

Another key scene in the play that highlights one of Fran's emotions is when Bob and Fran are discussing their child, Mark, and they discuss his sexuality and assume that he is gay. ~~Bob~~ Bob then makes a joke about Mark wanting to become a woman, seemingly funny at first, it turns out that's the real

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Reason Mark went to see his parents, to tell them he's transgender and wants to transition into a woman. Fran feels shocked, angered, sad and disgusted upon hearing this information and she tells Mark "I pushed you out my cunt". In this scene Fran isn't just ~~angry~~ feeling this way because he's trans. She feels this way because she feels like she is losing the son she spent years raising and ~~she will never see his face again~~ she will never see his face again since he's becoming a woman.

As an actor playing Fran, in this scene I would put my arms over my chest to convey the disgust she feels towards Mark's revelation that he wants to become a woman. It would also help show that she isn't open to hearing any of it and that she is closed minded. I would turn my head to the side to show the shock felt upon hearing Mark say that. It would help show the impact of what she's been told. I would use a sad facial expression to show the grief that comes with her feeling like she is losing the son she's had for years.

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	<p>When she yells at him I would use the gesture of pointing my finger at him to emphasise the fact that he is my^{her} son and that she^{she is} having to let go of that which is making her feel angry. I would also use a loud volume and exasperated tone to show that I'm annoyed, shocked and tired of ^{hearing} everything that she is he is saying. Showing the complex emotion of grief.</p>
	<p>This would help the audience understand that Fran is having a hard time sorting her emotions as many different feelings course through her at once when she hears this news. It would help show the shock she feels as she wasn't expecting this, it would also show the anger and sadness that is starting to consume her as she's losing Mark. This would also convey the slight disgust she feels towards him for doing this to himself and not thinking about how it affects her and the rest of the family.</p>
	<p>Later on as the play continues, their son Ben comes home and he is moving quickly and</p>

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erratically as he enters the house. Ben is sweating and his eyes are wide and his breathing is ragged and his chest rises and falls hard with every breath he takes. Bob and Fran ask him what's going on and they ask him what drugs he had taken, to which Ben replies with "it's easier to ask what drugs I haven't taken". This shocks Bob and Fran and Ben reveals that he's been using money to buy loads of things and that he can't afford to pay the huge sum back.

Fran then says she has the money to pay for everything and we discover that she had been saving money for a while now. This shows that Fran is caring and she has a lot of love and support for Ben no matter what, because she favoured him. This conveys her gentle emotions, such as affection and selflessness when it comes to her.

As an actor I would ~~use~~ use an open body language to show that I'm open to hearing his explanations and to show he can tell me

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	<p>anything. I would use a quiet quiet voice volume to highlight the gentleness I feel towards Ben. I would also use a soft tone of voice to show that I care deeply for Ben. I would make the gesture of placing a hand on his shoulder and to show my support and I would use an empathetic facial expression to show that I understand how he feels and why this is so hard for him.</p>
	<p>Acting like this would help the audience understand that Ben Fran has a lot of love and care for Ben and that she is always willing to help him no matter what the issue is. It would help highlight Fran's softer emotions that she shows when she's with Ben, such as adoration, care and care and helpfulness.</p>
	<p>Towards the end of the play Bob and Fran are stood in the garden having a conversation in which Fran then asks Bob "Did I drive them away?" Referring to their kids as all of them are leaving one by one. In</p>

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this scene we see Fran's emotional side and we see emotions such as, sadness, regret and a sense of remorse.

As an actor playing Fran I would avoid eye contact with Bob to show the guilt she feels due to her actions and what it has caused. I would also use a quiet voice and soft tone to show how emotional it makes Fran feel as she realises ~~that~~ she may be the catalyst of change in their family as she's driving the kids away. I would use a sad facial expression to show the emptiness she feels because her kids are gone. I would also use, a closed body language to show that Fran doesn't want to feel anymore pain than she already does.

This would help ~~show~~ the audience understand that Fran loves her kids and she realises that the way she shows love is complex and can be unusual. It would also convey her more emotional side to the audience as it shows that she misses her kids and

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	That they're a big part of her life and	
	wishes she would have done things differently	
	because she now feels remorseful, sad and	
	a longing for her kids. All of which are negative	
	emotions	

2025 question paper – question 8 – Black Watch

(8) Black watch is a play ~~written~~ directed by John Tiffany. Black watch follows the story of soldiers who have been in the army, it explores the themes and issues of PTSD, men's mental health and life at war.

A key scene in Blackwatch is ~~the~~ early on in the play, when the boys are talking about a writer that's coming to interview them. They've been told that the writer that's coming is a woman named Sophie, this causes them to get excited about her arrival, and they make sexual jokes about her. The writer then arrives and it is in fact not this so-called "Sophie" it's a man who is very excited to see the soldiers and upon entry he uses an open body language as if wanting to hug them and he says "Hey!" with a high pitched voice and

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happy tone. The boys aren't happy at all about this as they were awaiting "Sophie"

The actors playing the soldiers show that they are unhappy by using upright posture, closed body languages and they move closer together. They also use deeper voices and use disgusted and annoyed facial expressions to show their dissatisfaction. They also use louder volumes and their tones are slightly awkward as this isn't what they were hoping for at all.

This enhanced my appreciation of the play because it showed that the boys are attempting to intimidate the writer and tell him to "back off" without directly telling him to do so. It also ~~se~~ showed that since they were in the army they are more unimposing than those who have never been. Their getting closer together also shows that some of the things they learnt during their time in the army have stuck with them. This successfully touched into the theme of life at war.

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<p>Another key scene in Blackwatch that explores the themes and issues of life at war and PTSD is when they have their first flashback. The boys are talking about how they didn't want to be in the army at in the first place and the sound of gunshot is heard and there's a Strobe light that's used that represents the shooting of guns, a pool table appears and two soldiers emerge from it.</p>	
<p>John Tiffany's intentions in this scene are to show</p>	
<p>John Tiffany's intentions in this scene were to show what life was like at war and how sudden things can go from relaxed to loud and potentially catastrophic. The pool table was used to represent the wagon/tank they were in during their time in the army. It emphasised the size of it and just how many people they had to fit into it. The two soldiers that step at the wagon stand back to back which shows how cautious and alert they had to be and a pre-recorded news report is used to give context.</p>	

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This enhanced my appreciation for the play as it shown the pressure that the boys were under when it came to being at war. It made me realise that the conditions they were in were not ideal as they were all confined in such a small tank and had to keep quiet in order to stay alive which can cause stress for the soldiers and feelings of anxiety. It also explored the theme of life at war for the boys

The next key scene is when one of the soldiers, ~~conroy~~ conroy is getting his uniform changed by other soldiers on stage as he explains the evolution of the Blackwatch and the history of The Regiment.

John Tiffany's intention in this scene were to show how far the Blackwatch has come. He does this by ~~playing~~ playing dramatic music which makes the soldiers seem heroic. He also has other actors changing conroy's

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<p>uniform as he explains everything the blackwatch went through and after every culture change there's a camera sound effect and the flashing of lights which suggests capturing photos of these historic moments and keeping them. Canning also walks on a red carpet. This makes him him seem important and he looks like a figure that's known by a lot of people as it looks like he is on a catwalk and a red carpet is usually associated with important events and well known celebrities.</p>	
<p>This enhanced my appreciation of the play because it helped make us realise that the Blackwatch have come a very long way and have evolved over the years. It also helped us realise that the Blackwatch have done so much important things and have fought for the country for such a long time. It also explores the lives of the soldiers in different times.</p>	
<p>Another key scene in the play is when the media arrive. One of the soldiers were</p>	

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set on speaking to the media but he was replaced by ~~himself~~ Cunmy. Cunmy had never done anything like this before so he felt nervous and unsure of what to do.

The actor playing Cunmy highlights the nervousness felt by his character by using a closed body language by having his arms crossed over his chest. He uses long pauses between sentences as he is nervous and unsure of what to say ~~to~~ to the media.

He uses the gestures of bringing his ~~face~~ hands up to his face, showing he is embarrassed and wants to hide. He speaks with a fast pace, the words tumbling out his mouth which show nervousness.

This enhanced my appreciation for the play as it showed that Cunmy is actually just like everybody else despite his being a soldier. It made me realise that he is a soft hearted guy underneath the hard exterior he is built due to being

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^{at war}
~~at war~~
a soldier. This also shows that Carney is a shy person and he is just a little boy on the inside.

The next key scene shows Stewart's character having a mental breakdown. The scene is dark and there isn't much lighting but Stewart is heard laughing at first which then morphs into a sob, showing that he is going through something.

The actor playing Stewart shows this by laying on the ground with his arms and legs spread out. He then begins to laugh, but his voice becomes a quieter volume, about a whisper and he starts to sob, his pitch is higher than what his regular voice sounds like and he brings his hands up over his eyes, covering them as he cries. His sobs slowly grow louder before he sits up with his shoulders slumped. He then ~~is~~ angrily removes his hands from his eyes and curses lightly under his breath before

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	leaving the stage.
	This enhanced my appreciation for the play as it showed that they've just got to get on with it and keep going in the army. This made me realise that the theme of men's mental health was explored as it shows that whatever you're going through in war, you must continue going no matter what the problem is as there isn't much time for emotions there.
	Another key scene, that explores the themes and issues of PTSD is when the writer is asking what it was like at war and Steerpike gets really annoyed by this and almost attacks the writer. Afterwards the writer looks really rattled and shaken by this.
	This is shown by the actor playing Steerpike pulling a chair to the middle of the stage and the writer and making a sign for the writer to come over. Steerpike then

