Supporting your daughter through GCSE Drama

What do students need to do to succeed?

The following bullet points are a guide to some useful revision techniques you should use to prepare for your component 3 written exam. Remember it is worth 40% of your final grade and you need your 500 words of notes on the live performance. You do NOT need a DNA script, as you will get an extract printed in the exam.

**Section A: DNA by Dennis Kelly**
- Regularly refer to your Drama handbook!
- Research DNA again – watch clips on You Tube
- There are 5 questions on DNA worth 4, 6, 9, 12 and 14 marks
- Question A i and A ii will ask you to write about using **vocal** and **performing skills** as an **actor**
- Question B will ask you to write as a **Director** about how you would **direct** an actor in the extract and in the whole play and how you would use a **production element** in this extract
- Question C will ask you to write as a **Designer** about how you would use a **technical element** in the extract.
- Spend **ONE HOUR** on your DNA answers
- There are tips and hints on DNA on [www.bbc.co.uk › Bitesize › GCSE › Drama › Writing about drama and theatre](http://www.bbc.co.uk › Bitesize › GCSE › Drama › Writing about drama and theatre)
- You must practice some questions such as:
  - As a director how would you use costume or sound to bring this extract (pick one yourself) to life?
  - As a designer explain how you would use lighting or set to create atmosphere in this extract?
  - As a performer playing the role of...(pick one yourself) explain how you would use movement and gesture to communicate their personality in this extract?
- Read the DNA Technical Terminology guide on the T: drive.
- Read the play again (script is on the T: drive)
- Try the practice questions on the T: drive.

**Section B: Live Performance**
- There are 2 questions. The first one will ask you to **analyse** something so **explain** how elements were used by actor, director or designer to **engage the audience and have an effect**. The second question will ask you to **evaluate** so **discuss** what was done and **give an opinion** on whether it worked or not and explain why. In both questions you **must** give specific moments from the play as evidence.
- Always write about what the **actors or directors or designers** did to communicate the story. You are **not** writing about the author or playwright.
- Refer to your 500 words of notes!
- You answer two questions worth 6 and 9 marks
- Spend **30 minutes** on the live performance section – 15 minutes on each question.
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