



Hoërskool Johan Jurgens
Dramatic Arts
Cycle Test- Marking Guidelines
Grade 11

Time: 1 Hour

Marks: 50

Section A: Realism as a Dramatic Movement

Question 1

1.1 Define the term Realism as a dramatic movement.

Award 1 mark for reference to truthful representation of life

Award 1 mark for focus on ordinary people/ everyday situations.

- **Realism is a dramatic movement that aims to represent life truthfully, focusing on ordinary people and realistic situations, avoiding exaggeration.**

(2)

1.2 Identify two characteristics of Realism evident in Source A.
Any two of the following (2x2)

- **Ordinary people as characters.**
- **Everyday situations.**
- **Natural/ realistic dialogue.**
- **Familiar, detailed settings.**

- **Focus on Social issues.**
- **Avoidance of exaggerated characters or plots.** (4)

1.3 Explain why Realist playwrights choose to portray ordinary people rather than heroic or mythical characters.

Award marks for explanations such as:

- **Makes the play relatable to the audience.**
- **Reflects real social issues faced by society.**
- **Encourages audience to reflect critically on real life.**
- **Highlights problems of everyday life.**

1 mark per valid explanation (4)

1.4 Discuss the importance of realistic settings in Realist drama.

Award marks for discussion including:

- **Creates believability.**
- **Helps audience identify with the action.**
- **Reflects social and cultural context.**
- **Supports naturalistic acting.**
- **Enhances realism of the narrative.** (5)

[15]

Question 2: Context and Themes in a Doll's House

2.1 Identify one social issue (Theme) explored in A Doll's House as referred to in Source B.

Accept any one of the following:

- **Gender roles**
- **Woman's oppression**
- **Marriage**
- **Patriarchy**
- **Identity**

2 marks for correct identification (2)

2.2 Explain how the Helmer household represents nineteenth-century society.

Award marks for explanations

- **Patriarchal structure.**
- **Male dominance in marriage.**
- **Women expected to be obedient**
- **Emphasis on reputation and respectability** (4)

2.3 Discuss why A Doll's House was considered controversial when it was first performed.

Award marks for discussion such as:

- **Nora challenges traditional female roles**
- **A woman leaving her husband and children**
- **Criticism of marriage**
- **Questioning male authority**
- **Challenging societal norms**

Accept well developed responses (5)

In response to a changing society, new forms of realism emerged. A plot was devised a structure that was to become known as the 'Well-made play', a step-by-step formula for creating Drama. Realism demanded specific conventions (guide lines or rules).

2.4 Give a detailed explanation of the conventions of a 'Well- made play.

Conventions of a well-made play

- **A clear exposition - Introduction of the character or the situation to the audience.**
- **Careful preparation for future events - All action has a logical development within the context of what they already knew about the characters.**
- **Unexpected but logical reversals of characters' circumstances - The audience still had to experience the drama of the unexpected, but it had to be within the realm of the possible.**
- **Continuous and Mounting suspense - Audience had to be kept in suspense throughout the performance.**

- Scene were good was rewarded and bad punished - Satisfied the conservative audience of the time.
- A Logical resolution; denouement - Tied up all loose ends of the story. (6)

[17]

Question 3

3.1 Identify the character in **Source C**.

- **Nora Helmer**

(1)

3.2 Give a detailed character description of the character identified in **Source C**.

- **Married to Torvald, a controlling husband.**
- **Had a secret lean to save Torvalds's life (Forged her father's signature)**
- **Struggles with Social expectations of being a "perfect wife".**
- **Wants to protect her family and reputation.**
- **Seeks independence and self-discovery.**
- **Tired of being treated like a "doll".**
- **Secretly pays off her debt with her own money.**
- **Manipulates people (e.g., Krogstad) to get what she wants.**
- **Eventually leaves her family for self-realisation.**

(5)

3.3 Discuss how an actor playing the character in **Source C** may use Stanislavski's System, specifically, Emotion Memory to guide the actor in their preparation for their roles in the final scene of the play.

(4)

Accept any relevant answer

- **Stanislavski believed that actors have to tap into their own experiences and emotions when creating a character.**
- **Therefore, the character playing Nora will have to think of a time where they had to stand up for themselves or make a hard decision, felt trapped or vulnerable.**
- **Connect the emotions to actions and link these feelings to Nora's actions and dialogue.**

Question 4

4.1 Write a paragraph clearly explaining the Socio-Political background of realism. **(8)**

Markers Note:

- Award marks holistically within the level achieved.
- Credit valid alternative interpretations supported by the text.

8-7	6-5	4-3	2-0
Insightful response showing understanding of Realism.	Clear discussion of Movement. Shows Moderate Understanding.	Response is vague, not well articulated paragraph.	Facts are incorrect. Paragraph is incomplete.

Possible Answer:

- **Realism emerged after Romanticism when theatre was heightened and focused more on creating theatre showing the emotional state rather than the rational.**
- **Romanticism focused on fantasy.**
- **Changing society and situations such as the Industrial revolution, the countless world wars had a huge impact of society.**
- **This leading to the Theatre practitioners wanting to create theatre that showed the ills of society and not just matters of the soul.**

[18]

Test Total: 50

Blooms Taxonomy cognitive level analysis

Level	Cognitive Process
Level 1	Remember (Recall/Identify/Define)
Level 2	Understand (Explain/Describe/Interpret)
Level 3	Apply (Use knowledge in performance or directing context)
Level 4	Analyse (Discuss/Examine/Interpret meaning)
Level 5	Evaluate (Critically discuss/Justify opinions)

Question	Marks	Cognitive Level
Question 1		
1.1 Define Realism	2	LO
1.2 Identify characteristics	4	LO
1.3 Explain choice of ordinary characters	4	MO
1.4 Discuss importance of setting	5	MO
Question 2		
2.1 Identify social issue	2	LO
2.2 Explain societal representation	4	MO
2.4 Discuss controversy	5	HO
2.5 Conventions of Well-Made Play	6	LO
Question 3		
3.1 Identify the character	1	LO
3.2 Character description	5	MO
3.3 Stanislavski's system	4	MO
Question 4		
4.1 Paragraph	8	HO

OVERALL COGNITIVE LEVEL SUMMARY

Cognitive Level Marks Percentage

Lower Order (LO) 15 30%

Middle Order (MO) 22 44%

Higher Order (HO) 13 26%

TOTAL **50** **100%**

