Senior Certificate
Drama and Communication Exam
May 2026

Please attempt **FOUR** Questions
Answer Questions 1 and 2, and any two others.

Exam Duration: 2 hours

Candidates must not reference the same material in more than one Question

1. In 2026, Jessie Buckley became the first ever Irish winner of the best actress Oscar for her performance in Chloé Zhao's Shakespeare drama, Hamnet. Discuss your understanding of how best you might approach developing a character from first reading to final performance. Refer to a specific character in a published play.

2. Consider the key elements of good verse speaking and how they might differ from prose in delivery. In your answer, include references from specific texts.

3. Devising, mime and improvisation are important creative tools. Outline, in your experience, their contribution to drama work.

4. Referencing one or more of Shakespeare's plays familiar to you, explore how his language and timeless human experiences can support powerful performances.

5. Reflect on a recent live theatre production that you have attended. Consider the acting, direction, design elements and overall impact on the audience.

6. Choose a poet, author or playwright whose work you have researched. Discuss their contribution to literature and/or theatre.