

Exams

**LAMDA Level 3
Certificate in
Speech and Drama:
Performance Studies**

PCertLAM

Version 2: with exams from 1 August 2026

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About LAMDA

Founded in 1861, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) is the oldest drama school in the UK. We started to offer exams in speech and drama to the public over 130 years ago. Since then, we have developed an enviable reputation for delivering excellence in the provision of Communication, Performance and Musical Theatre exams in the UK, and are rapidly extending our reach internationally.

LAMDA is recognised as an awarding organisation by the Office of Qualifications and Exams Regulation (Ofqual) in England, Qualifications Wales and the Council for the Curriculum Examinations and Assessment (CCEA Regulation) in Northern Ireland.

LAMDA Qualifications

The LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies resides on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). The RQF permits direct comparison between academic qualifications (i.e. GCSEs / A Levels) and vocational qualifications (i.e. LAMDA Qualifications and others).

About This Syllabus Specification

This syllabus specification outlines the specification for LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies. It is designed for use by Centres, Teachers, Learners and Parents.

Qualification Structure

The LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (also known as PCertLAM) is open to all.

There is no minimum or maximum age restriction.

It is recommended that Learners undertake either the LAMDA Level 3 Graded Exam in Performance: Acting Solo/Duologue (Grade 8), Devising Drama Solo/Duologue (Grade 8), LAMDA Level 3 Graded Exam in Communication: Speaking Verse and Prose (Grade 8), Reading for Performance (Grade 8), or LAMDA Level 3 Graded Exam in Musical Theatre: Solo/Duo (Grade 8) prior to commencing study.

RQF Level	Qualification	Ofqual Qualification Accreditation Number (QAN)
Level 3	LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies	603/7393/3

The appropriate Qualification title and Qualification Accreditation Number (QAN) will appear on Learners’ final certification documentation.

Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations

Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations are designed to facilitate access to Qualifications for Learners who have particular requirements. Further information can be obtained from LAMDA Exams’ published Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations Policy, which is available to download from the LAMDA website.

Assessment and Grading

The purpose of assessment is to ensure that effective learning has taken place to give Learners the opportunity to meet all the Assessment Criteria and achieve the Learning Outcomes within a Qualification and/or Unit.

All LAMDA graded Qualifications require external assessment. External assessment is a form of independent assessment where Assessment Criteria for each Qualification are set by LAMDA and marked by a LAMDA Examiner.

LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies uses written and practical assessment as its method for external assessment.

All assessment for LAMDA regulated Qualifications is criterion-referenced, based on the achievement of specified Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria. Each Qualification and/or Unit within the Qualification has specified Assessment Criteria which are used for grading purposes. A Qualification grade can be awarded at Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Learners must achieve a minimum of a pass for all Assessment Criteria and meet the minimum overall mark in order to achieve a pass for the whole Qualification. Learners who fail to satisfy one or more of the stated Assessment Criteria (irrespective of the total marks they accumulate) will be graded as a Fail.

A Learner Exam Report (LER) will be completed by the Examiner for each assessment. This will show a result for each Assessment Criteria which could be Distinction (D), Merit (M), Pass (P), or Fail (F).

Invalidation Policy

LAMDA operates an Invalidation Policy for all its Qualifications.

All Learners must perform to the exact requirements as detailed in the relevant syllabus specifications. Learners must also comply with all LAMDA Exam Regulations as detailed at the start of the syllabus.

Learners who do not adhere to these requirements will be at risk of Invalidation. All potential invalidations are submitted by the Examiner and are reviewed by LAMDA to ensure fair, valid and consistent decisions are made. If an exam is Invalidated, LAMDA will issue a result of 'Invalidated' and will not award a certificate for the Learner's assessment.

For all confirmed Invalidation decisions, the reasons for the Invalidation along with the Learner's Exam Report (marked 'Invalid') will be sent directly to the Centre Coordinator or the named accountable person detailed at the time of exam entry.

Language

English is used and explicitly expressed in all LAMDA syllabus specifications and assessment materials for the exams. Exams are conducted solely in English. The language used in all syllabus specifications and assessment materials, and during practical assessment, is explicit, plain and free from bias.

Whilst LAMDA offers exams in Wales and Ireland, it does not offer exams using Welsh (Cymraeg) or Irish (Gaeilge) languages.

Accent

LAMDA welcomes Learners from all over the world and encourages performances in a wide range of individual accents. Whilst taking exams, LAMDA encourages Learners to find clarity and intelligibility within their own accent, rather than speaking in any particular accent.

Support Materials

LAMDA expects that this syllabus document is used in conjunction with a range of supporting resources.

Mandatory resources are Free of Charge and include Teacher Support Materials, FAQs and Policies. They can be accessed via the LAMDA website.

LAMDA also produce a range of optional supporting resources. These can be purchased from our online shop.

Selecting Pieces With Sensitivity

LAMDA Exams is constantly exploring ways to make our syllabi as inclusive as possible. We work with the industry to create positive change and encourage conversation around equality, diversity and inclusivity.

We recommend Teachers and Learners to cast with sensitivity and consideration of the themes and experiences of the character portrayed, particularly in relation to age, religion, race, gender and disability.

Learners can play characters of any gender. Unless explicitly stated in the Exam Content, Learners presenting a published or Set text should not change the text. Character names and pronouns should remain as originally written by the playwright/author.

It is important in these contexts that Teachers works with Learners to ensure that they can perform their text in a way that allows the Learner to meet the Assessment Criteria. For example, ‘to demonstrate an understanding of the character’, the Learner must be able to portray the character in a way that complements the context within which pieces were originally written.

Plagiarism Guidance Notes

As part of the General Conditions of Recognition, LAMDA is required to establish, maintain and comply with a Malpractice and Maladministration Policy. This policy covers malpractice by Learners, registered Centres or others involved in the development and delivery of Qualifications or its Units, and maladministration on the part of the Centre or any other party involved in the development, delivery and award of Qualifications.

Plagiarism is a form of malpractice which may compromise or attempt to compromise the process of assessment, the integrity of the Qualification/Unit or the validity of the result/certification and/or damage the authority, reputation or credibility of the awarding organisation.

If Portfolios, Workbooks and other forms of written assessment are to remain viable assessment methods, it is the duty of all who are preparing and assessing Learners as well as those marking and administering the exams to do whatever they can to counter any act of plagiarism.

This includes the use of Artificial Intelligence to generate text. This is strictly prohibited. LAMDA does not permit the use of ChatGPT, or any other form of Artificial Intelligence (A.I.), when preparing for LAMDA Exams. All work presented must be prepared by the Learner.

If a Learner submits a written assignment that contains work that is not their own without acknowledging the source, they are committing plagiarism. This includes copying published texts in print or from the internet, and/or copying essays or pieces of work previously submitted for exams by another Learner. Copying from such sources without acknowledgement is deemed to be plagiarism.

Learners are required to submit a signed declaration with any piece of assessed written work proving that the work is their own. Awarding organisations will employ a number of methods to verify the Learner's work is original and do this to ensure the integrity of the Qualifications is upheld.

If a case of malpractice/maladministration as a result of plagiarism is established, the investigating officer will recommend if a sanction is required. The sanctions applied range from a warning regarding future conduct of the Learner or disqualification from the Unit/Qualification, to being barred from entering one or more exams for a set period of time. Please refer directly to the LAMDA Sanctions Policy for LAMDA Exams for further details. This can be found on the LAMDA website.

Purpose of the Qualification

The LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) is designed to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding required to prepare and perform a recital.

Learners who prepare themselves appropriately will develop skills and knowledge in accordance with three broad objectives:

- 1. Interpretative skills**
- 2. Technical skills**
- 3. Knowledge of the performance process**

Broad Objectives of the Qualification

1. Interpretative skills

The Learner will be required to:

- Engage with the emotion, style and form of a text.
- Explore content, subtext and context in order to realise the specific demands of a text.

2. Technical skills

The Learner will be required to:

- Develop skills in voice, diction and movement.

3. Knowledge of the performance process

The Learner will be required to:

- Know and understand the skills required to prepare a recital for performance.
- Know and understand the chosen material.

Structure

The syllabus specification is comprised of two Units, both of which are mandatory in order to achieve the whole Qualification. LAMDA recommends Learners take the Units in numerical order.

RQF Level	Unit Title	Assessment Method	Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	Total Qualification Time (TQT) (Hours)
Level 3	Unit 1: Performance Theory	Written	24	60
Level 3	Unit 2: Presenting a Performance Recital	Practical	56	140

The Learner will be awarded a Pass or Fail for each individual Unit. A Pass is required in each Unit in order to achieve the whole qualification.

The LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) is offered in the following format:

- Solo (one learner) where the Learner performs alone.

Overall Awarding of the Qualification

On completion of both Units the two marks will be calculated and then weighted to achieve the final result. The weightings for each Unit are as follows:

Unit 1: Performance Theory – 30%

Unit 2: Presenting a Performance Recital – 70%

To calculate the final result, LAMDA will calculate 30% of the Unit 1 mark and 70% of the Unit 2 mark. The two figures will then be added to calculate the final band of attainment as indicated below.

Attainment Bands

Award	Total Marks
Pass	50-64
Merit	65-79
Distinction	80+

Designation

Learners who obtain either a Pass, Merit or Distinction for their overall Qualification may use the designation PCertLAM.

Unit Assessment

Unit 1: Performance Theory

Two electronic copies of the Unit 1 written assignment (Portfolio Workbook) must be submitted to LAMDA for marking. Submissions must be the Learner's own original work.

Unit 2: Presenting a Performance Recital

The Learner will be assessed by a LAMDA Examiner in a practical exam. The Learner must enter for their Unit 2 exam at a LAMDA Private, Public or International Centre.

LAMDA recommends Learners submit their Unit 1: Portfolio Workbook before taking Unit 2: Presenting a Performance Recital.

Exam Regulations

1. Learner registration is accepted as evidence that the Learner agrees to the regulations laid down in the syllabus specification.

For Unit 1 Workbook:

2. Clean, legible, unannotated copies of the pieces must be included in the appendix of the Workbook but will not be counted in the total word count.

For Unit 2 Recital:

3. Clean, legible, unannotated copies of pieces must be provided for the Examiner.
4. Learners must only present four pieces during their Unit 2 Performance Recital. Live Remote Online Assessments are available for PCertLAM Unit 2, but where a piece of Musical Theatre is selected as piece 4, the entire recital will be submitted by self-tape with a live knowledge section conducted remotely.
5. Full costume must not be worn. Long practice skirts, which allow freedom of movement, may be used together with small items such as scarves, hats, shawls, gloves or canes. Nudity is not permitted. Hand props are permitted but must be kept to a minimum. Real knives, weapons or authentic replica weapons are not permitted.
6. The Learner must play only one character in any dramatic solos or musical theatre selections. Multiple characters in a solo performance must only be played if the playwright or the style of the piece specifically calls for them to be played by one performer. This means, for example, that one Learner cannot adapt a Duologue to play both characters.
7. No unauthorised person will be allowed to be present during the exam. An 'authorised person' is a person that is not being assessed, who has been permitted by LAMDA Exams to enter the exam room in line with the requirements of the Learner's Reasonable Adjustments.
8. Live accompaniment - a piano, electric keyboard, guitar or other appropriate instrument may be used to accompany the song. It is the responsibility of the Learner to provide the instrument and accompanist required for use in the exam to support their performance. The accompanist must remain in the room for the entire recital element of the exam. The accompanist must leave for the sight-reading and knowledge discussion elements of the exam.
9. Recorded accompaniment (music and/or sound effects) - if recorded accompaniment is used, the Learner must provide their own technical equipment for use in the exam. A technician is permitted to be present in the room to operate the equipment.

The technician must remain in the room for the entire recital element of the exam for which they are required. The technician must leave for the sight-reading and knowledge discussion elements of the exam. Backing tracks which include any vocal performance, including backing vocals, are not permitted.

10. Electronic sound enhancement is not permitted, including the use of microphones.
11. Electronic devices, such as mobile phones, tablets, e-readers and laptops cannot be brought into, or used in the exam room unless the device is:
 - Required to display an E-book and is in airplane mode, or does not have access to the internet.
 - Authorised as part of a LAMDA authorised reasonable adjustment and is only used in line with the approved adjustment.
 - Shown to the Examiner at the start of the exam to verify their status (devices must be off or in airplane mode).
 - Only used for the part(s) of the exam where they are required and are placed out of the reach and view of the Learner for all other sections.
12. Own Choice Selections must be published by a professional third party (e.g. a Publishing House). Self-Published Selections that have not been reviewed and published by a third party are not allowed. Copies of any published texts and/or lyrics provided for the Examiner must adhere to copyright laws.
13. Learners must take responsibility for their own health and safety when working towards the LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM).
14. Live animals are not permitted in the exam room.
15. The selected repertoire must be performed in English.
16. Where a maximum timescale is stated, if a Learner exceeds this time, the Examiner will not mark anything presented after this time.

Please Note: If, during an exam, the Examiner feels that any action or behaviour presents a risk to the safety, security or safeguarding of any party involved in the exam, the Examiner may take immediate action and halt the exam.

A breach of any of these Regulations will be referred to LAMDA Exams for consideration. Breaches found to have an impact on the validity of the exam, risk Invalidation. Please see the Invalidation Policy section for further information.

Unit 1: Performance Theory

RQF Level: Level 3

Guided Learning Hours: 24

Total Qualification Time: 60

Unit Description

Unit 1 of the LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) is designed to enable Learners to develop their knowledge of performance theory. Learners will submit a written assignment in the form of a Portfolio Workbook. They will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the relevant knowledge and skills required to prepare a recital for performance. Research will be thorough and adapted to relevant contexts and working practice. Information will be presented clearly and in an appropriate format.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of these exams, the Learners will be able to:

- LO1:** Demonstrate an understanding of the knowledge required to prepare a recital for performance.
- LO2:** Demonstrate an understanding of the skills required to prepare a recital for performance.
- LO3:** Demonstrate an understanding of the rehearsal process.
- LO3:** Demonstrate an understanding of the rehearsal process required to prepare a recital for performance.
- LO4:** Present information in an appropriate format.

Assessment Method

The Learner will be assessed via the submission of a written assignment (Portfolio Workbook) which will be marked by a LAMDA Examiner.

Exam Content: Unit 1

Learners will submit a written assignment in the form of a **Portfolio Workbook**. The Workbook will document the process of preparing a recital, based around a theme, to be performed as part of the 'Unit 2: Presenting a Performance Recital' assessment. The written assignment must be between 5,000 and 6,000 words.

The Learner will perform a recital, based around a theme of their own choice. The recital must include the performance of four own choice pieces, an introduction, a linking statement between each piece, and a conclusion. These elements must be performed from memory.

The four own choice pieces must comprise:

Piece 1 - A piece of published verse

Piece 2 - A piece of prose selected from a published book

Piece 3 - A dramatic solo scene from a published play or film screenplay

Piece 4 - A free choice piece that must be one of the following:

- A second piece of published verse
- A second piece of published prose
- A second dramatic solo scene selected from a published play or film screenplay or collection of solo scenes
- A song from a published work of musical theatre or film musical

The recital must be the same recital performed as part of the Unit 2 assessment.

If a non-English language text is selected, translations of the original text into English must be used.

The Learner may perform the pieces included in their recital in any order. Each piece must not exceed five minutes in length. The entire recital must be a minimum of 20 minutes and must not exceed 25 minutes in length. A clean, legible, unannotated copy of each published piece must be provided for the Examiner.

Portfolio Workbook Content

The Workbook must include the following information in relation to this recital:

- The reasons behind the choice of recital theme.
- A summary of the research undertaken on the chosen recital theme.
- The reasons behind the choice of pieces.
- A summary of the research undertaken on the choice of pieces.
- An explanation of how you developed the introduction, linking passages and conclusion included in the recital.
- Research on the life, work and influence of the writers of the pieces included in the recital.
- Research on the social, historical, and cultural contexts of the pieces included in the recital.
- Research on one character included in the recital.
- An explanation of the choice of staging and movement of each piece.
- A summary of the physical and vocal exercises used as part of the performance preparation.
- A summary of the dramatic exercises and processes used as part of the performance preparation.
- A summary of the rehearsal process.

The Portfolio must present a balance between appropriate research and practical application.

Formatting

The Portfolio Workbook must be word-processed and use appropriate vocabulary and technical terms. Learners must include the following:

- A contents list and/or index.
- Footnotes detailing any quoted references and the Learner's full name, LAMDA PIN and page number.
- A bibliography, formatted as per the Learner's chosen referencing style.
- An appendix containing copies of the chosen pieces.

Any material included in footnotes, the bibliography or appendix must not be included in the final word count. Further material can be included in the appendix where appropriate, to be referred to in the Portfolio Workbook, but this will not be assessed.

Digital photographic, audio or video material may be included if appropriate to the topic and purpose. Audio or video files must not be longer than 15 minutes in length and must be included in the appendix and clearly referenced in the content of the Workbook.

Assignment Submission

An electronic copy of the Portfolio Workbook must be submitted to LAMDA for marking. The submission must be the Learner's own original work.

Assessment and Grading Criteria: Unit 1

Learning Outcomes (LOs) and Assessment Criteria

LO1	Demonstrate an understanding of the knowledge required to prepare a recital for performance
1.1	Present the reasons behind the choice of the recital theme
1.2	Present a summary of the research undertaken on the recital theme
1.3	Present the reasons behind the choice of pieces
1.4	Present a summary of the research undertaken on the choice of pieces
1.5	Present an explanation of the development of the introduction, linking passages and conclusion included in the recital
1.6	Demonstrate research on the life, work, and influence of the writers of the pieces included in the recital
1.7	Demonstrate research on the social, historical and cultural contexts of the pieces included in the recital
1.8	Demonstrate research on one character included in the recital
1.9	Present an explanation behind the choice of staging and movement of each piece
LO2	Demonstrate an understanding of the skills required to prepare a recital for performance
2.1	Present a summary of the physical and vocal exercises used as part of the performance preparation, referencing examples and explaining how the exercises were utilised
2.2	Present a summary of the dramatic exercises and processes used as part of the performance preparation, referencing examples and explaining how the exercises were utilised
LO3	Demonstrate an understanding of the rehearsal process required to prepare a recital for performance
3.1	Present a summary of how the recital developed through the rehearsal process
LO4	Present information in an appropriate format using the Portfolio Workbook
4.1	Present information in a clear and coherent format within the Portfolio Workbook
4.2	Use appropriate vocabulary and technical terms within the Portfolio Workbook
4.3	Show accuracy of research and interrogation of sources within the Portfolio Workbook

Unit 1: Marking Scheme

Assessment Tasks		Learning Outcomes	Marks	Total Marks
Portfolio Workbook	Interpretation	LO1	60	60
	Skills	LO2	20	40
		LO3	10	
		LO4	10	
Total Marks			100	100

The following information describes what skills and knowledge Learners need to present in order to attain marks for Fail, Pass, Merit or Distinction for the LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) Unit 1 Exam.

Distinction (80–100 Marks)

A Learner who achieves a Distinction grade will have demonstrated detailed understanding and awareness of the chosen material. The Learner will have provided detailed rationale behind the choice of theme and pieces selected and how the linking statements were developed. They will have demonstrated knowledge through comprehensive research of the pieces, writers, and context. A detailed explanation of the choice of staging and movement will have been presented.

The Learner will have demonstrated understanding of preparation skills through detailed summaries of the physical and vocal exercises to be used as part of the recital preparation. A detailed summary of the rehearsal process will have been demonstrated. The Portfolio Workbook will have been presented in a clear and coherent format. Appropriate vocabulary and technical terms will have been used throughout, complemented with accurate and detailed application of research and interrogation of sources.

Merit (65–79 Marks)

A Learner who achieves a Merit grade will have demonstrated secure understanding of the chosen material. The Learner will have provided secure rationale behind the choice of theme and pieces selected and how the linking statements were developed. They will have demonstrated knowledge through secure research of the pieces, writers, and context. A secure explanation behind the choice of staging and movement will have been presented.

The Learner will have demonstrated an understanding of preparation skills through secure summaries of the physical exercises and processes to be used as part of the recital preparation. A secure summary of the rehearsal process will have been demonstrated. The Portfolio Workbook will have been presented in a secure format that is clear and coherent. Appropriate vocabulary and technical terms will have been used most of the time, complemented with secure application of research and interrogation of sources.

Pass (50–64 Marks)

A Learner who achieves a Pass grade will have demonstrated basic understanding of the chosen material. The Learner will have provided basic rationale behind the choice of theme and pieces selected and how the linking statements were developed. They will have demonstrated knowledge through basic research of the pieces, writers, and context. A brief explanation behind the choice of staging and movement will have been presented.

The Learner will have demonstrated an understanding of preparation skills through basic summaries of the physical exercises and processes to be used as part of the recital preparation. A basic summary of the rehearsal process will have been demonstrated. The Portfolio Workbook will have been presented in a basic format that is clear and coherent. Appropriate vocabulary and technical terminology will have been used some of the time, with a basic application of research and interrogation of sources.

Fail (0–49 Marks)

A Learner whose Portfolio Workbook is graded as a Fail will have demonstrated inaccuracy in any component. They may have demonstrated an inadequate standard of research, with an unclear rationale and understanding. Knowledge in relation to the repertoire explored may have been insufficient. The Learner may also have failed to communicate understanding of the repertoire. The Learner may have failed to present the Portfolio Workbook in a clear and coherent format and used inappropriate vocabulary and technical terminology, or lacked application of accurate research or interrogation of sources.

Please note: Learners who complete the external assessment but who either do not meet the minimum pass mark, or fail to achieve a pass for one or more of the stated Assessment Criteria (irrespective of the total marks they accumulate) will be graded as a Fail.

Both Unit 1 and Unit 2 must be completed to a Pass grade or higher to achieve the LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) Qualification.

In these circumstances, the Examiner will identify the Assessment Criteria/Criterion not met in the Learner Exam Report (LER).

Unit 2: Presenting a Performance Recital

RQF Level: Level 3

Guided Learning Hours: 56

Total Qualification Time: 140

Unit Description

Unit 2 of the LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) is designed to enable Learners to develop a wide range of performance skills. Learners will perform a recital consisting of four pieces and links (an introduction, linking statements and a conclusion) and read at sight a previously unseen text. They will integrate their knowledge and skills to demonstrate a mature understanding of the material. There will be a sense of ownership and self-awareness. Presentation will be grounded in thorough and relevant preparation. Learners will combine physical and vocal flexibility to engage the audience.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this Unit the Learner will be able to:

Interpretation

LO1: Perform a recital from memory, demonstrating an understanding of the material.

Technique

LO2: Demonstrate a vocal response to the text.

LO3: Demonstrate a physical response to the recital.

Sight-Reading

LO4: Sight-read, sharing the text with the audience.

Knowledge

LO5: Know and understand the content and context of the chosen material.

LO6: Evaluate the recital performance.

Assessment Method

The Learner will be assessed via the submission of a practical assessment (Recital Performance) which will be observed by a LAMDA Examiner.

Total Time Allowance

60 Minutes

Exam Content

The Learner will perform a recital, based around a theme of their own choice. The recital must include the performance of four own choice pieces, an introduction, a linking statement between each piece, and a conclusion. These elements must be performed from memory.

The four own choice pieces must comprise:

- Piece 1** - A piece of published verse
- Piece 2** - A piece of prose selected from a published book
- Piece 3** - A dramatic solo scene from a published play or film screenplay
- Piece 4** - A free choice piece that must be one of the following:
 - A second piece of published verse
 - A second piece of published prose
 - A second dramatic solo scene selected from a published play or film screenplay or collection of solo scenes
 - A song from a published work of musical theatre or film musical

The recital performed must be the same recital detailed in the Portfolio Workbook submitted for the Unit 1 assessment.

If a non-English language text is selected, translations of the original text into English must be used.

The Learner may perform the pieces included in their recital in any order. Each piece must not exceed five minutes in length. The entire recital must be a minimum of 20 minutes and must not exceed 25 minutes in length. A legible copy of each published piece must be provided for the Examiner.

The Learner must provide the character(s), titles and writers of their chosen pieces on the exam entry form.

Sight-Reading

The Learner must bring the book (eBook* or hard copy), from which the prose selection was taken, into the exam room. The Learner should bring a copy of the full book. If the prose selection was from the LAMDA Anthology, a copy of the original book must be brought in and not just the Anthology piece.

The Examiner will ask the Learner to sight-read a selection of text. The text will be drawn from the book used for the Prose reading. The Examiner will show and tell the Learner where to start their sight-reading. The Learner can study the text for 1 minute prior to the reading.

*If a Learner chooses to use an eBook, they are free to use any size font and they can apply coloured overlays as required.

Knowledge

The Learner will answer questions on the following:

- The content and verse form of Piece 1 (verse piece) included in the recital.
- The content of the book from which Piece 2 (prose piece) has been taken, noting key characters, themes and events within it.
- The content of Piece 3 (dramatic solo scene) included in the recital, the character's objective within it, and its importance within the context of the play as a whole.
- How the social and historical context of the writer's writing influenced the performance of Piece 4 (free choice).
- An evaluation of the chosen theme and selected pieces and how they informed the recital performance.
- An evaluation of the strengths of the recital performance, as well as identifying any areas for improvement.

Assessment and Grading Criteria: Unit 2

Learning Outcomes (LOs) and Assessment Criteria

LO1	Perform a recital from memory, demonstrating an understanding of the material
1.1	Demonstrate understanding of content, subtext and context
1.2	Demonstrate understanding of the form of the verse selection(s)
1.3	Demonstrate understanding of the styles of writing
1.4	Communicate understanding of the intentions and objectives of the character(s) portrayed
1.5	Perform the recital from memory with fluency, focus and spontaneity
1.6	Use the chosen pieces to effectively communicate the theme
1.7	Present links appropriate to the recital theme in the form of an introduction, linking passages and a conclusion
LO2	Demonstrate a vocal response to the text
2.1	Use breath support to produce a free vocal tone
2.2	Perform with clarity of diction appropriate to the recital
2.3	Use effective modulation in response to the text
LO3	Demonstrate physical response to the recital
3.1	Demonstrate appropriate movement, posture, gesture(s) and facial expression
3.2	Make appropriate use of the performance space
LO4	Sight-read, sharing the text with the audience
4.1	Sight-read with fluency
4.2	Sight-read with vocal and facial expression
4.3	Sight-read, sharing the text with the audience

LO5	Know and understand the content and context of the chosen material
5.1	Give an explanation of the content and verse form of Piece 1 (verse piece)
5.2	Give a summary of the content of the book from which Piece 2 (prose piece) has been taken, noting key characters, themes and events within it
5.3	Give a summary of the content of Piece 3 (dramatic solo scene), the character's objective within it and its importance within the context of the play as a whole
5.4	Give a summary of how the social and historical context of the writer's writing influenced the performance of Piece 4 (free choice)
LO6	Evaluate the recital performance
6.1	Give an evaluation of the chosen theme and selected pieces and how they informed the recital performance
6.2	Give an evaluation of the strengths of the recital performance, as well as identifying areas for improvement

Unit 2: Marking Scheme

Assessment Tasks			Total Marks
Interpretation	LO1	Piece 1	40
		Piece 2	
		Piece 3	
		Piece 4	
		Links	
Technique	LO2 LO3		30
Sight-Reading	LO4		10
Knowledge	LO5 LO6		20
Total Marks			100

The following information describes what skills and knowledge Learners need to present in order to attain marks for Fail, Pass, Merit or Distinction for the LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) Unit 2 Exam.

Distinction (80–100 Marks)

A Learner who achieves a Distinction grade will have demonstrated detailed understanding and awareness of the chosen material. The performance will have been innovative and sophisticated, responding vocally and physically to the demands of the pieces throughout. Knowledge and understanding of material will have been discussed in-depth, and with understanding. The Learner will have given a detailed evaluation of their chosen pieces, theme, and recital performance.

Merit (65–79 Marks)

A Learner who achieves a Merit grade will have demonstrated secure understanding of the material through a clear and imaginative interpretation, using thoughtful and engaging physical and vocal techniques. Knowledge and understanding of the chosen material will have been securely researched and presented. The Learner will have given a secure evaluation of their chosen pieces, theme, and recital performance.

Pass (50–64 Marks)

A Learner who achieves a Pass grade will have demonstrated basic understanding of the material. A Learner will show a basic response to the material in performance, with some recognition of physical and vocal techniques. Knowledge and understanding of materials will be basic in discussion. The Learner will have given a basic evaluation of their chosen pieces, theme, and recital performance.

Fail (0–49 Marks)

A Learner whose exam is graded as a Fail will have been unable to demonstrate sufficient accuracy and there will be a lack of fluency in the presentation of the recital. They will have demonstrated an inadequate standard of physical and vocal technique. There may have been lapses in memory and they will have shown insufficient evidence of interpretative skills. Knowledge in relation to the repertoire performed will have been insufficient. The Learner may also have failed to communicate, through their performance or presentation, any significant degree of understanding of the repertoire.

Please Note: Learners who complete the external assessment but who either do not meet the minimum pass mark, or fail to achieve a pass for one or more of the stated Assessment Criteria (irrespective of the total marks they accumulate) will be graded as a Fail.

Both Unit 1 and Unit 2 must be completed to a Pass grade or higher to achieve the LAMDA Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM) Qualification.

In these circumstances, the Examiner will identify the Assessment Criteria/Criterion not met in the Learner Exam Report (LER).

Glossary of Terms: Qualification Terminology

Assessment - the process of assessing the Learner against the assessment criteria.

Assessment Criteria - descriptions of the requirements a Learner is expected to meet to demonstrate that a Learning Outcome has been achieved.

Certificate (for a Unit or Qualification) - a record of attainment of credit or a qualification issued by an awarding organisation.

Guided Learning Hours (GLH) - The number of hours of Teacher-supervised or Teacher-directed study time required to teach a qualification or the unit of a qualification..

Learning Outcome (LO) - a statement of what a Learner can be expected to know, understand or do as a result of a process of learning.

Level - an indication of the relative demand, complexity and depth of achievement.

Qualification - an award made to a Learner for the achievement of the specified requirements.

Qualification Syllabus Specification - a detailed statement defining the purpose, content, structure and assessment arrangements for a Qualification.

Qualification Title - a short description of the Level, size and content of a Qualification.

Total Qualification Time (TQT) - the whole time a learner takes to complete a qualification, including guided learning, directed study, self-study and dedicated assessment and exam time.

Unit - a coherent and explicit set of Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria, with a title, credit value and Level.

Glossary of Terms: Syllabus Content

Please note: these definitions should only be used as an initial starting place when preparing for the Knowledge sections of exams, and Learners are encouraged to explore these terms in greater depth using other sources.

Appendix - an appendix (one item) or appendices (more than one item) contains information that is not essential to the essay or report written but supports the analysis and validates the conclusions.

Audibility - using sufficient breath and resonance so that the sound can be heard.

Bibliography - a list of sources (e.g., books, articles, websites) used to write the Portfolio Workbook. It usually includes all the sources consulted even if they are not directly referred to in the Portfolio Workbook.

Body language - communicating the thought and feeling of a text non-verbally; for example, through the use of facial expression and posture.

Character intentions and objectives - clarifying what the character wants, desires or needs through each action, spoken line and the spaces between the words.

Clarity of diction - articulating sufficiently, without losing the sense or flow of the text, in order to be understood.

Contents page - a list that outlines what is included in the Portfolio Workbook. It should come second to the title page.

Context - the situation and world of the text.

Facial expression - using the face to express the emotion behind the text.

Focus - maintaining concentration and involvement with the character or text being portrayed.

Footnote - appears at the bottom or “foot” of the page. This lets you add information to the Portfolio Workbook without interrupting the flow of the main text. Usually, this will be a reference or non-essential commentary.

Form - how thoughts are structured in literary composition; the arrangement and shape of words on the page.

Gesture - movement of the hands, arms and/or head to convey an idea or meaning.

Index - a list of all the names, subjects and ideas in a piece of written work, designed to help readers quickly find where they are discussed in the text. Usually found at the end of the text, an index doesn't just list the content, it analyses it.

Modulation - variations in pitch, intonation, pace, volume, tone colour, use of pause and stress.

Performance space - the area in which the Learner presents the pieces.

Physical flexibility - making a non-verbal response to the imagery presented in different styles of text.

Portfolio Workbook - a collection of work used to show competence or knowledge, through which Learners will demonstrate that they can meet the requirements and Assessment Criteria of the Unit within the Qualification that they are taking. For Unit 1, Learners must organise their evidence into a written assignment of between 5,000 and 6,000 words.

Published - a text which is available to the public in a printed book, in an eBook or online.

Recital - a programme of material presented in an uninterrupted performance.

Recital conclusion - bringing the previously shared thoughts, ideas and texts into a final statement.

Recital introduction - an opening statement outlining the theme, ideas, thoughts and texts that make up the recital.

Recital linking passages - thoughts, linking one text to another.

Referencing style - a set of rules on how to acknowledge the thoughts, ideas and works of others in a particular way.

Sight-Read - to read aloud a previously unseen text.

Spontaneity - as if the text is being spoken for the very first time.

Staging - positioning a performance within the space provided.

Style - how thoughts are expressed in literary composition; the specific characteristics of the text, including choice of words, syntax and genre.

Subtext - the hidden meaning or underlying message behind the text.

Title page - the very front page of your Portfolio Workbook, which includes the Learner's name, LAMDA PIN, word count, and chosen theme.

Theme - a recurring idea or subject in the text.

Visual interest - varying the physical mode of presentation within the performance space.

Vocal flexibility - a supported and free vocal tone; releasing breath and sound freely and easily; supporting breath with the appropriate muscles; aiming for balanced and forward resonance.

Vocal skills - using sufficient audibility, tone colour and clarity of diction when performing the text.

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(PCertLAM)
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