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|  | Years 5 and 6 standard elaborations — Australian Curriculum: Drama |

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| **Purpose** | The standard elaborations (SEs) provide additional clarity when using the Australian Curriculum achievement standard to make judgments on a five‑point scale. These can be used as a tool for:   * making consistent and comparable judgments about the evidence of learning in a folio of student work * developing task-specific standards for individual assessment tasks. |
| **Structure** | The SEs are developed using the **Australian Curriculum achievement standard**. The Arts: Drama achievement standard describes the learning expected of students at each band in the two valued features for Australian Curriculum Arts — responding and making. Making is further broken down into forming and performing. Teachers use the achievement standard during and at the end of a period of teaching to make on‑balance judgments about the quality of learning students demonstrate.  In Queensland the achievement standard represents the **C standard** — a sound level of knowledge and understanding of the content, and application of skills. The SEs are presented in a **matrix**. The discernible differences or degrees of quality associated with the five-point scale are highlighted to identify the characteristics of student work on which teacher judgments are made. Terms are described in the Notes section following the matrix. |

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| **Years 5 and 6 Australian Curriculum: Drama achievement standard** | |
| By the end of Year 6, students explain how dramatic action and meaning is communicated in drama they make, perform and view. They explain how drama from different cultures, times and places influences their own drama making.  Students work collaboratively as they use the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement in improvisation, playbuilding and performances of devised and scripted drama for audiences. | |
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| **Source** | Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), Australian Curriculum Version 8 The Arts: Drama,  [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/the-arts/drama](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/the-arts/drama) |

## Years 5 and 6 Drama standard elaborations

|  | |  | A | | B | | C | D | E |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | |  | The folio of a student’s work has the following characteristics: | | | | | | |
| Responding | | | thorough explanation of how dramatic action and meaning are communicated in the drama made, performed and viewed | informed explanation of how dramatic action and meaning are communicated in the drama made, performed and viewed | | | explanation of how dramatic action and meaning are communicated in the drama made, performed and viewed | description of how dramatic action and meaning are communicated in the drama made, performed and viewed | statements about dramatic action and meaning being communicated in drama |
| thorough explanation of how drama from different cultures, times and places influences their own drama making | informed explanation of how drama from different cultures, times and places influences their own drama making | | | explanation of how drama from different cultures, times and places influences their own drama making | description of influences on their own drama making | statements about their own drama making |
| Making | Forming | | skilful and effective use of the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement in improvisation and playbuilding to create dramatic action and meaning | | effective use of the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement in improvisation and playbuilding to create dramatic action and meaning | use of the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement in improvisation and playbuilding | | uneven use of aspects of the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement in improvisation and playbuilding | sporadic use of aspects of the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement in improvisation and playbuilding |
| Performing | | skilful, effective and sustained use of the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement to perform devised and scripted drama that is cohesive and clearly and effectively communicates dramatic action and meaning to audiences | | effective use of the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement to perform devised and scripted drama that effectively communicates dramatic action and meaning to audiences | use of the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement to perform devised and scripted drama for audiences | | uneven use of aspects of the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement to perform devised and scripted drama for audiences | sporadic use of aspects of the elements of drama to shape character, voice and movement to perform drama |

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| Key | shading emphasises the qualities that discriminate between the A–E descriptors |

## Notes

### Australian Curriculum common dimensions

The SEs describe the qualities of achievement in the two dimensions common to all Australian Curriculum learning area achievement standard — understanding and skills.

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| Dimension | Description |
| **understanding** | the concepts underpinning and connecting knowledge in a learning area, related to a student’s ability to appropriately select and apply knowledge to solve problems in that learning area |
| **skills** | the specific techniques, strategies and processes in a learning area |

### Terms used in Years 5 and 6 Drama standard elaborations

These terms clarify the descriptors in the Years 5 and 6 Drama SEs. Descriptions are drawn from:

* ACARA Australian Curriculum: The Arts glossary,   
  [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/the-arts/glossary](https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/the-arts/glossary/)
* ACARA The Arts: Drama > Examples of knowledge and skills > Years 5 and 6,  
  [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/the-arts/drama/example-of-knowledge-and-skills](https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/the-arts/drama/example-of-knowledge-and-skills/)
* other sources, to ensure consistent understanding.

| Term | Description |
| --- | --- |
| artist | generic term for the maker of an artwork in each of the five arts subjects;  artists include actors, choreographers, composers, dancers, directors, editors, filmmakers, instrumental musicians, painters, scriptwriters, sculptors, singers; also includes artists who make [hybrid artworks](#hybrid_artwork) |
| artwork | generic term for a performance or an artwork in each of the five arts subjects; when referred to generically this curriculum uses the term artwork; within each arts subject, the subject-specific terms are used; artworks are also frequently described with reference to forms or styles;  artworks include performances such as a dance, dramatic play or song and artefacts such as a film or painting; also includes [hybrid artworks](#hybrid_artwork) |
| aspects | particular parts or features |
| atmosphere | the established mood or feeling conveyed in an artwork or performance;  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |
| audience | individuals or groups of people who experience the arts in a range of settings and contexts (formal, informal, virtual or interactive) through intellectual, emotional and social engagement; the artist is audience to their own artwork;  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |
| character | identification and portrayal of a person’s values, attitudes, intentions and actions as imagined relationships, situations and ideas in [dramatic action](#dramatic_action);  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |
| clear; clearly | easy to perceive, understand, or interpret; without ambiguity |
| cohesive | characterised by being united, bound together or having integrated meaning |
| collaboration; collaborating | working jointly on an activity or project;  in Years 5 and 6 Drama, students must be given opportunities to work collaboratively to plan, make and perform drama |
| communication; communicated | in The Arts,communication means sharing of learnings, ideas, thoughts and feelings through the viewpoints of the artist and/or the audience |
| description; describe | give an account of characteristics or features |
| dramatic action | the driving force and forward motion of drama to create dramatic meaning, tension, belief and audience engagement; the movement of the drama from the introduction, exposition of ideas and conflict to a resolution;  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |
| dramatic meaning | a signified, intended purpose or effect interpreted from the communication of expressive dramatic action;  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |
| dramatic play | includes playbuilding, storytelling, improvising, devising, and sequencing dramatic action |
| effectively; effective | meeting the assigned purpose in a considered and/or efficient manner to produce a desired or intended result;  in Drama, meeting the purpose by producing a strong impression |
| elements of drama | in Drama, the elements of drama are:   * [role](#role), [character](#character) and relationships   + role and character: identification and portrayal of a person’s values, attitudes, intentions and actions as imagined relationships, situations and ideas in dramatic action; role focus on type and stereotype; characters are detailed and specific   + relationships: the connections and interactions between people that affect the dramatic action   + situation: the setting and circumstances of the dramatic action — the who, what, where, when and what is at stake of the roles/characters * voice and [movement](#movement)   + voice: using voice expressively to create roles, situations, relationships, atmosphere and symbols   + movement: using facial expression, posture and action expressively in space and time to create roles, situations, relationships, atmosphere and symbols   + [focus](#focus): directing and intensifying attention and framing moments of dramatic action   + tension: sense of anticipation or conflict within characters or character relationships, or problems, surprise and mystery in stories and ideas to propel dramatic action and create audience engagement * space and time   + space: the physical space of the performance and audience, fictional space of the dramatic action and the emotional space between characters   + time: fictional time in the narrative or setting; timing of one moment to the next contributing to the tension and rhythm of dramatic action * language, ideas, [dramatic meaning](#dramatic_meaning), mood and [atmosphere](#atmosphere), and symbol   + language, ideas and dramatic meaning: the choice of linguistic expression and ideas in drama used to create dramatic action   + mood and atmosphere: the feeling or tone of both the physical space and the dramatic action created by or emerging from the performance * symbol: associations that occur when something is used to represent something else to reinforce or extend dramatic meaning;   in Years 5 and 6 Drama, examples for the elements of drama include:   * role, character and relationships   + role and character: for example, creating the inner and outer world of a character; differentiating between characters and stereotypes   + relationships: analysing and portraying how relationships influence character development   + situation: sustaining a fictional setting using space and time * voice and movement   + voice: varying voice, for example, clarity, pace, volume and projection   + movement: using movement, facial expression and gestures to create and sustain belief in character and situation   + focus: framing drama to highlight and communicate key story elements and characters’ motivations   + tension: factors that contribute to tension or suspense in stories and tension in characters’ relationships, for example, using sound, light and technology to heighten tension/suspense   + space and time: sustaining a clear setting and sense of time to create belief in the drama * language, ideas and dramatic action   + central ideas or themes that give perspectives and ideas to the audience   + mood and atmosphere: the feeling or tone of physical space and the dramatic action created by or emerging from the performance * audience   + shaping and sustaining drama for others using the conventions of story within drama to communicate meanings |
| explanation; explain | provide additional information that demonstrates understanding of reasoning and/or application |
| focus | concentrate the attention on a spatial direction or a point in space to intensify attention or increase the projection of intent;  in Drama, focus means directing and intensifying attention and framing moments of dramatic action or identifying the main idea of the drama;  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |
| form; forms | in The Arts, form is the whole of an artwork created by the elements and the way they are structured;  in Drama, form is the way drama is structured; drama forms are shaped by the application of the elements of drama within particular social, cultural and historical contexts |
| forming | includes learning about and using the forms, structures and elements of drama to plan and make drama artworks that communicate ideas and intentions |
| hybrid artwork | the combination of more than one art form within an artwork |
| identification; identify | establish or indicate who or what someone or something is |
| improvisation | spontaneous, creative activity applying the elements of an art form;  in Drama, an improvisation is a spontaneous enactment taking on roles and situations to create dramatic action and extend an idea; usually short, and structured into a complete little play |
| informed | having relevant knowledge; being conversant with the topic;  in Drama, this includes how the knowledge and skills ([elements of drama](#elements_of_drama), conventions of forms/styles and the skills of drama) work together to communicate meaning or intent in and through drama |
| language | in Drama, ideas and dramatic meaning: the choice of linguistic expression and ideas in drama used to create dramatic action;  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |
| making; make | includes learning about and using knowledge, skills, techniques, processes, materials and technologies to explore arts practices and make artworks that communicate ideas and intentions |
| meaning | an intended idea, expression or purpose;  in Drama, see [dramatic meaning](#dramatic_meaning) |
| movement | in Drama, using facial expression, posture and action expressively in space and time to create roles, situations, relationships, atmosphere and symbols;  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |
| movement vocabulary | the accumulation of movement, steps, gestures that make up a repertoire for physical expression of feelings or ideas |
| performed; performing | in Drama, includes learning about and using knowledge and skills to present and share artworks with audiences that communicate ideas and intentions;  in Drama, includes acting |
| plan | a design or set of procedural steps specific to a project or task;  in Drama, students plan and modify dramatic works using dramatic principles and practices to achieve purpose |
| playbuilding | creating a play through improvisation or devising |
| relationships | in Drama, the connections and interactions between people that affect the dramatic action;  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |
| responding | includes exploring, responding to, analysing and interpreting artworks |
| role | adopting identification and portrayal of a person’s values, attitudes, intentions and actions and portraying these as imagined relationships, situations and ideas in dramatic action;  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |
| skilful | in Drama, in the context of:   * creating artworks, this includes considered selection, management and application of the [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama); * sharing artworks, this includes a high degree of proficiency and polish |
| sporadic | appearing, happening now and again or at intervals; (irregular) or occasional |
| statement; state | a sentence or assertion |
| sustained | continuing for an extended period or without interruption |
| thorough | demonstrating depth and breadth, inclusive of relevant detail;  in Drama, *thorough* means demonstrating depth and breadth of drama knowledge and skills |
| uneven | not properly corresponding or aligning; not in keeping with |
| voice | in Drama, using voice expressively to create roles, situations, relationships, atmosphere and symbols;  see also [elements of drama](#elements_of_drama) |