Performing theatre theory

IB DP Theatre HL solo theatre piece full package

The solo piece in numbers

Part	Requirement
theory	one aspect of one theorist
piece	a solo, 4 to 7 minutes
report	at most 2,500 words, plus sources
video	continuous and unedited
weight	35% at HL

Read a theorist five ways

Read	**Asks**
claim	what theatre is and should do
vocabulary	the precise terms
context	what theatre it answered
practice	the exercises it generated
critics	the objections and the defence

Worked: a theorist of presence

1. **Claim** truth lives in the performer's presence
2. **Vocabulary** presence, encounter, the empty space
3. **Practice** strip the actor; address the audience

Decision

Aspect chosen: **direct address** as encounter.

Translate the aspect

> Aspect, to principle, to generative rules, to the piece.

- The piece is the theory's experiment.
- The report narrates the translation.

Rules that generate the piece

Rule	Tests
each passage addressed to one spectator	encounter
no costume	as yourself
shared light	mutual visibility
the room's real time	here and now

The solo, staged

> Choose a spectator, tell them why; again; then ask the room to choose you.

- Symmetry of the encounter.
- The claim staged, not described.

The report in five parts

Part	Contains
theory	claim, **vocabulary**, context
aspect	why this one: yield
translation	principle, rules, events
evidence	what the video shows
evaluation	where it strained; revisions

Couple theory and practice

Every summary

has a staging

consequence

Every staging choice

has a theoretical

warrant

Check yourself

Question	Answer
Solo length?	4 to 7 minutes
Report limit?	2,500 words
The translation chain?	aspect, principle, rules, piece
Classic failure?	theory as philosophy
Weight at HL?	35%