### National 5 Drama coursework: preparation for performance

### Review sheet

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| Candidate name: | Erin Kelly |
| Candidate number: |  |
| Class/group: | 6F2 |
| Centre: | St Ambrose High School |

Give an account of your preparation for performance. You should include:

* your research findings on your chosen text
* a description of your acting or production role
* your thoughts and ideas for the proposed performance
* how you developed these for performance

(10 marks)

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| As my role as the lighting designer it was my job to carry out research on the play, *A Streetcar Named Desire* through help of the internet. I searched into the theme of "Fantasy vs Reality". This theme can be seen in many of the characters but mostly through Blanche. The idea of "Fantasy vs Reality" portrays the fact that Blanche wants to escape the real world by repressing the traumatic events that she went through by acting as if they weren't real. Blanche explains to Mitch that she lies because she refuses to accept the hand fate has dealt her. Lying to herself and to others allows her to make life appear as it should be rather than as it is. Escaping your reality and living in a fantasy world will leave you blind to the things around you. I also researched into mental health and how society didn’t really do much to help people suffering from mental health issues and this is why Blanche ends up in the position she does.  I have chosen the role of lighting designer which makes it my responsibility to programme the states using the lighting desk, adjust lanterns and create lighting plots. With my research in mind I decided to represent the fantasy world that Blanche lives in by using a lot of vivid pinks and purple lights on the stage. These two colours represent the fake world Blanche lives in as she refuse to accept the here and now, which is represented through the bright oranges and yellows which represent the sunshine of the day outside which is the real world. I also use a lot of cross fading when Blanche fades into fantasy and reality begins to disappear from her mind. There is also a point when a pink light fades up on Stella – who is supposed to live in the real world. I do this to indicate that she is romanticising Stanley’s domestic abuse and violence to make it seem okay in her own mind – which is a theme in the play. I also use a flashing red chase when Blanche is attempting to call Western Union to signify the association of danger as a precursor for the rape scene.  I have developed these ideas through a mood board which concentrates mostly on the themes and mood and atmosphere of the play as a whole. From a colour and lighting perspective I tried to find a lot of pictures that best represented the idea and imagery of fantasy vs reality and a lot of other recurring themes in the play such as social realism and dependence on men. These pictures and my mind map helped me a lot in my success as the lighting designer. I also spoke to the director about his aims for specifics on how he wanted the play to be styled and how he wanted it to look, I also took it upon myself to watch the director blocking the scenes and from this I created a master ground plan and lighting plots for each lighting state, then with help from my teacher the colours and angles of the lights were correctly adjusted. |

Signature of assessor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Total mark: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_