



# PRETORIA DRAMA EISTEDDFOD 2026

ENGLISH DRAMA (Code E)

**SPRING SYLLABUS (19 – 24 October 2026)**

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# SPECIAL RULES

1. **GROUPS** must consist of **3 or more competitors** (except for the Group Creative Poetry Writing and Presentation section).
2. All sections are combined for boys and girls.
3. Certificates are awarded according to symbols.
4. The eldest age in the group will be definitive in all ensemble-items.
5. All the names of participants in ensemble groups must be provided on the entry form.
6. If participants in group items wish to receive individual certificates all the names must be supplied on the entry form.
7. Candidates must comply with all requirements in all sections.
8. A candidate may not present the same work in more than one category.
9. A candidate may not present the same work in two consecutive years.
10. A candidate may not present the same work they have previously won a trophy for.
11. Please ensure that language used, is appropriate for an eisteddfod forum.
12. To be eligible for an **overall winner trophy** a competitor **must enter** the following:
  - Two prepared solo items* – one of which **must** be a monologue
  - Two unprepared solo items* – one of which **must** be either a solo improvisation (acting exercise) or solo improvised mime
  - One combined item (i.e. drama duologue / verse duo or trio).*
13. If a candidate enters for more than the required items for a trophy, the items with the highest marks will be considered.
14. To be considered for an award the candidate should at least participate on the same day of the specific category.
15. Please stick to the rule. If not, a school/studio will be asked to enter participants in another item or to cancel the entry without any refund.
16. Drama boxes will not be available. **Teachers to supply their own props.**
17. Competitors' dress: Black leotard & black tight (Girls) or black shirt or black T-shirt with short trousers or black tracksuit pants.
18. All competitors must introduce themselves as well as the piece performed to the adjudicator.

# **PREPARED GROUP ITEMS**

This category is for groups of 3 or more.  
All names of participants should be entered on the entry form.

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## **Group Theme (E28)**

- Group must consist of 3 or more competitors.
- Theme based on a centre of interest.
- Emphasis on the spoken word (poetry, prose, drama), incorporating mime, movement & reading.
- Use of music, rostrum and props optional.
- Costume accessories are allowed.

**E28                    Grade 1-12            R250**  
Grade 1-5            7-10 minutes maximum  
Grade 6-8            10-12 minutes maximum  
Grade 9-12           15 minutes maximum

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## **Group Movement & Physical Theatre (E29)**

- 3 or more competitors.
- Free interpretation.
- Music, body percussion and the creative use of sound are optional.
- The body is used to express and communicate the thematic context.

**E29                    Grade 1-12            R240**  
Grade 1-12            7 minutes maximum

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## **Group storytelling (E30)**

- 3 or more competitors.
- Polished rendering of any story incorporating all aspects of the dramatic arts.

**E30                    Grade 1-12            R250**  
Grade 1-12            10 minutes maximum

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## Original Group Work (E31)

- Own choice theme.
- This work consists of a combination of poetry and prose written and performed by the competitors.
- Maximum: 3-5 in a group.
- Please communicate the duration of the performance to the organiser.

**E31**            **Grade 5-12**    **R240**  
Grade 5-12      7 minutes maximum

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## Creative Group Work (E32)

- 3 to 10 participants.
- Spoken word must always be dominant.
- Any genre of drama can be included.
- No inappropriate theme.

**E32**            **Grade 1-12**    **R360**  
Grade 1-12      10 minutes maximum

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## Team Public Speaking (E33)

- 4 participants.
- It is public speaking, and the logical way of thinking and creative interpretation of the topic is the core of this item.
- Arguments should be convincing and backed up by research.
- No theatrics of any form, no choral statements, dramatizations, discussions, using or wearing of props.
- Own choice topic that is relevant and age appropriate.

**E33**            **Grade 6-12**    **R360**  
Grade 4 -12      8 minutes maximum

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# UNPREPARED GROUP ITEMS

This section is for groups of 3 or more.  
Please use the **GROUP ENTRY FORM**.

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## Duo/Trio Impromptu Mime (E34)

- Improvised mime for 2 or 3 participants.
- Subject is set by the adjudicator.
- Preparation Time: 30 minutes.

**E34**           **Grade 5-12**   **R240**  
Grade 5-6       4 minutes maximum  
Grade 7-12      5 minutes maximum

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## Group Impromptu Mime (E35)

- Subject is set by the adjudicator.
- 1 Hour preparation.
- 4 or more competitors.

**E35**           **Grade 5-12**   **R240**  
Grade 5-6       4 minutes maximum  
Grade 7-12      5 minutes maximum

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## Duo/Trio Creative Advertisement (E36)

- Subject is set by the adjudicator.
- Two or three participants advertise a product.
- Advertisement must include a jingle.
- Preparation Time: 30 minutes.

**E36**           **Grade 5-12**   **R240**  
Grade 5-12      5 minutes maximum

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## **Group Acting Exercise (Group Improvisation) (E37)**

*Improvisation in the arts refers to something that is spontaneously performed without much preparation. It is “playing the game”; setting out to solve a problem with no preconception as how it should be done (Viola Spolin).*

- Subject is set by the adjudicator.
- 1 Hour preparation.
- 3 or more competitors.
- The key to the game is to always react with Yes!— ... and— ... with new information added, to perhaps raise the stakes.
- In the game the players need to agree to the basic premise, situation and set-up. This will help the storyline to develop.
- The action should never be blocked or the flow of the storyline stilted. Avoid questions in improvisations, it blocks the flow.
- It is better to play in the present and use the moment. Be specific and provide colourful details.
- Raise the stakes, change direction and keep the development of the storyline alive.
- The art of improvisation is to accept what is coming your way, the ability to tell a story, strong listening skills, knowing when to end a scene, and being a team player. No place for selfish personalities.

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**E37                    Grade 1-12            R240**  
Grade 1-12            4-5 minutes maximum

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## **Group Impromptu Interpretation of a Poem (E38)**

- The Adjudicator’s choice of poem is to be interpreted by group as desired.
- 1 Hour preparation.
- 3 or more competitors.

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**E38                    Grade 6-12            R240**  
Grade 6-12            4 minutes maximum

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## **Group Creative Writing & Presentation (E39)**

- Topics are set by the adjudicator.
- 3 or more competitors.
- Competitors will be given 1 hour in which to write, direct and present an original poem, drama or story (Prose).
- Appropriate movements and/or sound effects will be permitted.
- The work may be written on cards – this is not a memory exercise.
- Bring your own stationery.

**E39                    Grade 5-12            R240**

Grade 5-7	2 minutes maximum
Grade 8-10	3 minutes maximum
Grade 11-12	3½ minutes maximum

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