



ASCA NEWS

PO BOX 4570 North Rocks NSW 2151
www.australianspeechcommunication.com

The ASCA Newsletter – June 2012

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Welcome to New Members

I would like to welcome new members for 2012 Gabrielle Tang and Amanda Sutherland. If you are on Facebook don't forget to join the ASCA Teacher's Facebook Network, and any queries can be sent to the addresses on the last page of the newsletter.

Important Notice for Timing of Exams

Teachers are to follow the time that is stated in the syllabus. Please note that setting up is included in the timing. Audience may leave during the examination but students must remain for the session.

Please ensure all codes are correct for each grade and the various syllabuses and that names are clearly printed and spelled correctly.

Changes to Exam Syllabuses

Some changes have been made to Exam syllabuses, they are listed below.

Original Syllabus

Junior Grade One

Section 1 : The candidate is required to show a favourite toy, game, tool, model *or any other item of interest* and explain how it is made and/or used. (2 minutes)

Senior Grade Three

Section 3

Debating Theory – Case line and method, matter, manner should be removed. Another option has been added to this section. Candidates may discuss debating **OR** do an impromptu reading of a dialogue from prose or a prose passage with direct speech and discuss techniques of reading aloud with the examiner.

NSW Awards Ceremony

The Awards Ceremony was a great success. The guest speaker, Candice Dixon, had the younger students captivated. The address explored her career path and how ASCA and Speech and Drama training helped prepare her for it.

The performances were outstanding once again with range of skills exhibited. Congratulations to all the performers and recipients of awards, it's always heartening to see the range and standard of our students.



Dress Code for Speech Exams

Remember personal appearance when preparing students for exams.

In Junior and Senior Exams school uniform is appropriate, as long as the student is still at school. Students should be encouraged to be neat and tidy with hair back out of their faces to make the best impression on the examiner.

Certificate of Communication, Diploma of Communication, Diploma of ASCA and exams for students who are no longer at school require professional attire. This would be an outfit that would be worn to a job interview in a professional setting such as a law firm. On page 39 of the original Syllabus it is stated that

“A well groomed appearance is essential. Inappropriate dress may influence the assessment.”

Males should be dressed in a suit or smart pants with a collared shirt and preferably a tie, jeans or similar casual pants are not appropriate. Shoes should be smart, not sneakers or fabric shoes.

Females have a little more to consider. I'll start from the bottom and work up.

1. Shoes

Shoes should be completely enclosed as per most Occupational Health and Safety requirements. This means no cut outs, sling backs or open toes. As with males shoes should be smart, sneakers or casual slip on shoes are not appropriate. Smart ballet flats are suitable. It's worth reminding students that high heels aren't necessarily the way to go as they will be standing for at least an hour and they can affect their voices and breathing.

2. Skirt/pants

Again these should be smart. Jeans or denim skirts are not suitable. Skirts and dresses should be long enough to sit comfortably in public. Leggings, tracksuit pants, very tight pants and shorts are not appropriate.

3. Tops

About.com has descriptions of a range of different dress codes. The following is from “A Formal, Professional Dress Code” by Susan M. Heathfield

Shirts, dress shirts, sweaters, tops, and turtlenecks are acceptable attire for work... Inappropriate attire for work includes tank tops; midriff tops; shirts with potentially offensive words, terms, logos, pictures, cartoons, or slogans; halter-tops; tops with bare shoulders or plunging necklines; golf-type shirts; sweatshirts; and t-shirts.

This can be found at

http://humanresources.about.com/od/workrelationships/a/dress_formal.htm

4. Hair, Accessories, Makeup

Again this is all about looking professional. hair should be neat and tidy, fringes out of the way and, most importantly, done so it doesn't need tucking behind ears or fiddling with during the program. Jewellery and makeup should be understated, no giant hoop earrings or bright red lip gloss etc.

Appropriate



Inappropriate



Impromptu Speaking on a Word

Impromptu speaking on a word is speaking off the top of your head with no planning about a single word given by the examiner. You will be expected to talk for at least one minute explaining the meaning and use of the word. The examiner will usually give you 30 seconds to think quietly about what you might say.

A formula which works very well in helping you to fill a minute full of talking is the following:

Definition: Give a clear and concise definition of the word

If the word given was poverty you might say:

“The definition of poverty is the state of being without enough money to be able to provide food and shelter for yourself or your family”

Sentence: Use the word in a sentence to contextualise the word

“The homeless man has suffered a great deal of poverty since he lost his job”

Example: Give an example of the word either from your own life or in the context of the world.

“The people of the Sudan in Africa have suffered a great deal of poverty due to wars, civil unrest and drought. It is the responsibility of the rest of the world community to help prevent poverty by making sure we share our good fortune and help those in need”

Conclusion: Sum up what you have talked about and finish with a message or main point you want the listener to take away and remember.

“Poverty is the state of being without enough food and or shelter for a comfortable existence. It is the responsibility of all citizens of the world to care for those less fortunate and to share the resources we have been lucky enough to have in our part of the world. Everyone can help prevent poverty through donations to charity.”

Remember the formula: **DSEC**

Definition

Sentence

Example

Conclusion

Kindly Contributed by Robyn Schiller

Queries

If you have any queries about ASCA, the syllabus or examinations, please contact us by email, or write and they will be handed to the committee for an answer.

CONTRIBUTIONS – to the newsletter will be gratefully received
by the editor.

**All newsletter correspondence to
PO Box 4570, North Rocks, NSW 2151
or ewalsh.communicate@gmail.com**

Images on Page 4 retrieved from:

<http://flower-sandals-more.blogspot.com.au/2012/02/sandals-ballerina-shoes.html>

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