



## 1. LAMDA Exams description

Type	Sub-category	Which grades?	
Performance Exams	Acting	From Entry Level, upwards to Grade 8	
	Devised Performance		
	Mime		
Communication Exams	Verse & Prose		
	Reading for Performance		
	Speaking in Public		
Musical Theatre Exams	Musical Theatre ***not offered		

Broadly speaking, there are two types of exam:

1. **Performance** – involves the whole body
2. **Communication** – focuses on voice

Each of these is divided into 3 sub-categories. Students take an exam in ONE of these sub-categories. They cannot mix them.

*Were these music, the types would be wood-wind or percussion. The sub-categories would be the individual instruments such as recorder or flute or drums. In the same way that you would NOT have an exam that had you play the flute while also banging the drums, you cannot mix the sub-categories.*

You can, however, take separate exams in Acting, or Devised Performance. So, a child can be:

**“Grade 3: Acting” & “Grade 1: Mime”**

**The performance exams** can be taken as **solo exams** or as **duologue exams** (with a partner). The candidates are assessed independently and often receive different marks.

## 2. Minimum Age for exams

The following table is designed to show the minimum age that people should attempt each grade.

LEVEL	GRADE	Recommended Minimum Age	Disciplines / Sub-category
INTRODUCTORY	Stage One	5 years	Verse ONLY
	Stage Two	6 years	
	Stage Three	7 years	
Entry	Entry	8 years	ALL
1	1	9 years	
	2	10 years	
	3	11 years	
2	4	12 years	
	5	13 years	
3	6 (Bronze)	14 years	
	7 (Silver)	15 years	
	8 (Gold)	16 years	



### 3. What exactly ARE the sub-categories?

Sub-category	The person taking the exam MUST...
Acting	... act and deliver lines from a chosen piece of work that is accepted by the LAMDA examiners. It must be published.
Devised Performance	... act out and deliver lines from a piece of work that they have devised (made up) themselves. (Obviously, it does not need to be published)
Mime	... prepare and deliver a scene using mime (devised by themselves)
Verse & Prose	... deliver a piece or verse and/or prose. It should be learnt by heart. Mistakes are costly in the exam.
Reading for Performance	... read aloud a piece of verse and/or prose (it must be read, not learned by heart).
Speaking in Public	Present a talk and be able to discuss the topic with the examiner (subject knowledge is important)
Musical Theatre	***not offered

The above table shows roughly what is expected. The higher the grade exam, the more content needed and the higher the quality of delivery.

Throughout each preparation, the exact requirements will be discussed so that each person knows exactly what is required.

### 4. Two in-depth examples of the progression through the grades:

#### Verse & Prose Examinations:

They should always choose one piece from the LAMDA Anthology and the other is their "own choice". It should be a suitable choosing (the higher the grade, the harder the piece).

- **ENTRY LEVEL and Grade 1:** Both pieces are verse
- **Grades 2-6:** One verse, one prose
- **From Grade 4:** Students also have to SIGHT READ – They are given one minute to view the text prior to reading
- **Grade 7:** verse, prose & sonnet by any poet, except Shakespeare
- **Grade 8:** verse, prose & sonnet by Shakespeare

#### Acting Examinations:

- **Entry level:** One piece only – own choice (2-3 minutes)
- **GRADE 1-5:** Two pieces – one from the **acting anthology volume 3**, one **own choice**
- **Grade 6:** Two pieces – one from a **pre-1980 play**, one from a **post-1980 play**
- **Grade 7 & 8:** Three pieces – One from a **pre-1800 play**, one from a **play published between 1800 and 1980**, and one from a **post-1980 play**