

Guidelines for the Licentiate Diploma dissertation

1. The key to writing a long dissertation is to have a clear idea of what aspect of speech and drama you wish to focus on.
2. The introduction should outline the assignment you are undertaking and the way in which you will approach it.
3. The conclusion should contain a brief summing up of your overall argument and the ideas you have outlined in the thesis.
4. The dissertation can also be divided into further sections, with sub headings, if this is beneficial. It is often a very useful way of structuring such a large piece of work. For example if you are writing about improvisation, after your introduction you may have a sections entitled the 'History of Improvisation', 'Improvisation in the Classroom Today', or 'Improvisation with Juniors' etc.
5. Make sure the sections are ordered in a logical fashion. If you order them in an unusual manner, to emphasis one of the principal points in the dissertation, account for this in the introduction.
6. The dissertation should be typed and double spaced to allow easy reading and correction. Only print on one side of an A4 page! (Use a standard font such as Times New Roman, font size 12)
7. Include a cover page containing the title of the dissertation, the date, your name and qualifications.
8. A bibliography of primary and secondary materials should be included after your conclusion. This should be in alphabetical order and does not count towards your overall word limit.
9. Have a friend or family to read it before you print the final copy, as it is very difficult to proof read your own work.
10. Remember to back up your dissertation regularly while you are working on it to avoid losing any material (computers aren't the most reliable machines) and keep a copy for yourself after submission.
11. Finally, and most importantly, there are a vast range of topics to chose from, but be sure to pick one that you are interested in and feel there is plenty to write about, otherwise you will become bored and your work will suffer as a result!