

Dear Year 11 into 12

Welcome to Drama! You have made a great choice by doing A Level Theatre. This is an exciting, enriching and challenging course. The Arts are such an important aspect of our country and the Arts sector contribute greatly to the economy. Drama has an important voice in our world and this course will set you up for a creative future in which you are a confident and well- rounded individual.



The work below is a consolidation of the previous work I have set you to explore over the period from May through to July. If you are unclear about any aspects of it, it may be helpful to go back to the previous transition tasks to see the background of what I am asking you to do here.

Please be ready with the tasks completed for September as this will form part of your initial assessments in September to establish your targets.

Many thanks for your continuing hard work and dedication

Mrs N Furnell
Head of Drama

C1 Devising

In this Unit we are following the theme of 'Man's inhumanity to Man' a phrase taken from the poem by Rober Burns. The idea behind it is that within humanity there is cruelty toward each other. There are many inhumane actions in many different forms throughout time and place.

Brecht is a practitoner who proposed that theatre should provoke action and change in society. His theatre techniques and performance approach enabled actors and audience to highlight the political and social messages of theatre.

We are looking at the play, 'Fear and Misery in the Third Reich' by Brecht as a basis to this work. We will be looking at various episodes of action from the play to explore how theatre can be used to educate the audience on the nature of 'Man's Inhumanity to Man'.

From this exploration you will then be asked to research examples of 'Man's Inhumanity to Man' in the world, either in history or in the present time. Using 'Fear and Misery' as a base you will then plan a structure for your own series of dramatic episodes exploring your chosen topic. You will consider and incorporate quotes from Fear and Misery and techniques used by Brecht to enable you to highlight the political and social message. You will then work in a small group to devise a play to educate the audience and provoke a change in attitude toward it from the audience.

Ready for September:

1. Draw together your own research into examples of Man's Inhumanity to Man with quotes from Fear and Misery and the ideology and techniques of Brecht. Find connections and methods which would enable a powerful communication of your ideas.

2. Plan a structural outline for a piece of theatre with examples of content for each episode of action.
3. Prepare a slide show presentation to the class when we start the course which communicates all of your ideas for the above.

Component 2 Text in Performance

For this component you will be performing a 2-minute monologue **and** a 25-minute group piece. You can choose the text you do (as long as it is not a play on the Edexcel syllabus for Component 3 - look at their website to check). Please start to research plays you would be interested in performing for both monologue and group piece. Watch live theatre streams to get ideas. Research on dramaonline and other drama websites which recommend monologues and group plays. Look for examples on YouTube by searching 'A Level drama performance', for example. Ask me for recommendations if stuck.

Ready for September:

1. Research and rehearse your monologue. Look at other performances of it on YouTube, read the whole play from which the monologue comes, make notes on the character's given circumstances (Stanislavski term).
2. Create a slide show presentation of your ideas for script choices for the group piece for when we start the course, explaining why each play you have selected would be appropriate. Explain plot, characters and style for at least 2 plays.

Component 3 Written Exam

Section A is a Live Theatre evaluation

Section B is an exploration of the play Equus by Peter Shaffer focussing on acting and design approaches to each scene.

Section C is an exploration of the play Woyzeck by Buchner focussing on directorial approach in the style of Artaud.

Ready for September:

1. Prepare a slideshow presentation to communicate all of your research and documents created for Woyzeck including a director's concept to interpret the play ready for the start of the course.
2. Prepare a slideshow presentation to communicate all of your research and the documents you have created for Equus including plot, themes, character, style, and context ready for the start of the course.