

GCSE to Further Education

A Level Theatre studies

Activity 1 - Subject Knowledge Audit

Create a Biography of your experience and knowledge of Drama and Theatre Studies under the following headings:

Plays I have read:

Performances I have seen:

Performances I have been in:

Practitioners/Playwrights I Know:

Specific Skills/Techniques I have:

Activity 2 - Short Essay - 500 words (include 2 quotes)

'What is the difference between Drama and Theatre?'

Activity 3 - Performance Review Essay - 500 words

As part of the Drama and Theatre Studies course, students are required to attend live theatre performances to gain practical inspiration for their own performance work. The live theatre experience will also inform a 'Live Theatre Review' in the written exam.

With reference to one live performance experience, explain why the performance was effective for you as a member of the audience. You may want to comment on one/some of the following:

- A particular actor and their use of performance skills
- Use of staging and Performance Space
- Use of technical design elements (set/lights/sound/costume)

*Ensure you state the title of the production.

Research and Reading Lists

a) In preparation for the course, students should familiarise themselves with the following plays:

- **Hedda Gabler** by Henrik Ibsen
- **Our Country's Good** by Timberlake Wertenbaker

Research key information about the playwright and provide a synopsis of each play.

b) Drama and Theatre Studies students are expected to actively research and read around the subject; developing a secure understanding of theatre, plays and practitioners. The following sources of information are recommended to help develop and broaden students' awareness and appreciation of Drama and Theatre.

- Theatre Reviews published in national & local press and online
 - The Guardian, The Times, The Stage, MEN
 - www.uktw.co.uk

Suggested Websites

- www.franticassembly.co.uk
- <http://theatredatabase.com>
- <http://www.complicite.org>
- <http://www.rsc.org.uk>
- www.itheatrestudies.com

- www.nationaltheatre.org.uk
- www.stagework.org.uk
- www.britishtheatreguide.info/
- www.trestle.uk.com/student

Digital Theatre

Digital Theatre is an online resource containing a range of theatre productions filmed live in some of the country's most prestigious theatres. Productions can be downloaded for a one off-fee or subscriptions can be made on a monthly basis.

Register for Digital Theatre at www.digitaltheatre.com

Live Productions

A requirement of the course is for students to attend 3 pieces of Live Theatre in preparation for a written examination question. We recommend students attend Live Theatre Performances in their spare time to support their studies.

Social Media

Social Media and Network sites such as Twitter and Facebook can be a great way of receiving up-to-date and bespoke information about local theatre and performances relevant to you and your interests. We recommend the following Official Twitter accounts (although do not accept responsibility for any comments or content published online!!):

@franticassembly

@ForcedEnts

@TheRSC

@WeAreKneehigh

@Spymonkeycomedy

@homemcr

@LivEveryMan