

Drama and Theatre

Summer Assignment 2017

To help you prepare for the wonderful challenges and depth of the course, we would like you to do the following over the summer. Please complete this assignment by your first lesson back in September.

1. Widen your knowledge of playwriting: Read a play. Your choice, either a classic or piece of new writing. Bring the play to the first lesson and prepare a 1 minute summary of its plot, performance style, and the themes the playwright explores to inform the class.

You can buy plays off amazon for 99p, or borrow one from the Library!

2. Widen your knowledge of theatre performance styles: See two contrasting LIVE performances and write a 500 word review of one of them. There are lots of performances on in and around Frome, and beyond. Try to find scripted and original devised performances. You need to be evaluating the production in terms of acting, design, costume and use of technology.

You can find cheap tickets last minute. Apart from the Merlin, see what's further afield in Bath, Bristol, Salisbury or an outdoor production. Here are some links to help find something to see....

<http://www.merlintheatre.co.uk/>

<http://www.theatreroyal.org.uk/>

<http://www.rondotheatre.co.uk/>

<http://www.bristololdvic.org.uk/>

<http://tobaccofactory.com/>

<http://www.salisburyplayhouse.com/>

<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/whats-on/>

If you absolutely can't get to 2 live performances, then soak up YouTube's amazing offering on Frantic Assembly, or The Globe or National Theatre online

3. Sharpen up your performance skills: Learn a monologue. Your choice. 1-2 minutes in length. We are not fussy if it's a play or a film script, but make sure you know what the whole play/film is about, and it's a little out of your comfort zone.

4. Read around the subject: buy this book and dip into it, make some notes in a shiny new Drama and Theatre note book. It's a great introduction to Drama and Theatre theory – it's £2.81 on Amazon:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Theatre-Directions-Warwick-Dobson/dp/0340758619>

Wider reading list: here are some books that could/should/would-be-good if you read....

An Actor Prepares; Stanislavski

The Year of the King; Anthony Sher – easy to read diary of this great actor playing Richard III

The Empty Space; Peter Brook

The Theatre and It's Double; Antonin Artaud

Improv; Keith Johnston –great for devising

Games for Actors and Non-Actors; Augusto Boal

5. Access the course specification online have a look and read over it. You will get an edited copy as part of your course guide in September

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/drama-and-theatre-2016.html>

6. Email me...if you have any questions

ktarrant@fromecollege.org

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

A2 Drama and Theatre Component 1: Devising

PLC	Red	Amber	Green
Research, exploration, development and structure			
I have been influenced by the ideas of the studied theatrical practitioner			
I have been influenced by plays, film and TV I have seen			
I have been influenced by literature and art			
I have contributed to the content, style and form of the performance through my detailed research			
I have contributed to the content, style and form of the performance through my creative ideas			
I understand how dramatic techniques and devices can help structure our play			
I understand how dramatic techniques and devices can help communicate our intentions to the audience			
I refer frequently to the assessment criteria and exemplar material for guidance			
I am clear about our target audience			
I am clear about what we intend to communicate to our audience			
I listen to the ideas of others and am happy to negotiate and compromise.			
Group Performance			
I have developed a well researched character			
I understand the social, cultural and historical aspects that will inform my performance			
I am considering the use of stage space in rehearsal and performance			
I can play a variety of roles and characters if needed in rehearsal and the performance			
I can communicate the meaning of the drama through my characterisation			
I can contribute to the content, style and form of the performance through my characterisation			
I work collaboratively with all other group members			
I can listen and respond to direction and instruction from others			
I can take advice, guidance and direction from the teacher			
I can prepare and rehearse for a sustained period			
I can contribute to scheduled rehearsals and production meetings			
I communicate with other performers and the audience during the performance			
I demonstrate an understanding of the content and purpose of the piece in my performance			
I have contributed to script writing and technical elements such as lighting, sound, costume, set and props			
I am committed to learning my lines and giving the best possible performance			

Portfolio			
I am keeping notes after every lesson and rehearsal under the question headings provided			
I am reading subject related texts			
I am gathering visual evidence such as photos and film of our rehearsals			
I am planning for my evaluation by creating an audience survey			
I understand how to use Drama terminology in my writing			
I can write fluently and proof read my work			
My spelling, punctuation and grammar are good			
I am reading exemplar portfolios online.			