

A Level Drama - Summer Independent Learning - Year 11-12

Part 1 Compulsory Content

1. Drama Theory – Evaluation of a Piece of live Theatre

What does this mean?

- ★ Live **theatre evaluation** involves analysing and **evaluating** a piece of **theatre** while demonstrating knowledge and understanding of how **theatre** is performed.
- ★ Evaluating
- ★ Analysing

Task broken down:

- Watch a piece of live theatre analyse and evaluate the performance, design and directorial elements.
- It must be a piece of theatre – not a film.
- It can be a musical, pantomime, naturalistic piece, physical theatre, but it must have been performed on the stage in the last two years.
- You do not have to have seen this performance live, but you **MUST** access a live recording and watch the full play.
- Your piece of writing must be 600 words minimum and 1000 words maximum. You must include your full name, word count, title of the play, where the play was performed and the name of the director and/or theatre company on every page.

Here are some suggestions:

Links:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zxs9xnb/revision/1>

2. Drama Practical Skills – Performing Theatre

Performance/Audition of a 2 to 3 minute monologue.

- Perform a monologue performance from a published play text/script. A published play text/script means that it has been professionally made into a book and
- You will be performing this live to an audience and your teachers in the first two weeks of College.
- You must type/write your script with stage directions in.
- You are only allowed ONE prop that you may make or buy.
- You may use one piece of costume for your character.
- Your audience will be End On.
- You can have music, but you will need to organise this and download it prior to the lessons. You may email this file to your teachers. Do not email a YouTube link.
- There will be a white wash of light for you and 6 small stage blocks only.
- You will not be using a microphone; you will need to project your voice.

Links:

Styles text on GCSE Bitesize - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zm72pv4>

National Theatre advice:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CZUWHmbRZU0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9LNFLbhve-4>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RRc4tq2kpE>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aE4zNB1z7oM>

Books with monologues

- Contemporary Monologues for Young Actors: 54 High-Quality Monologues for Kids & Teens.

- National Youth Theatre Monologues: 75 Speeches for Auditions: Speeches for Young People.

Part 2 – Strongly Recommended Additional Content

3. Research Project – 20th Century Practitioner and Contemporary Theatre Company

NCP Learning Cycle – Preview.

- New material
- Big ideas
- Thinking of questions you want answered

- 1. 20th Century Practitioner – Antonin Artaud**
- 2. Contemporary theatre company – choose one ONLY– Kneehigh, The Paper Birds, Red Ladder, DV8, Frantic Assembly, Forced Entertainment, Splendid Theatre company.**

Knowledge and understanding of practitioners underpins the whole course. You will need to use theory, theatre companies and practitioners and apply them to the practical and theoretical work in all three components.

Style of presentation:

- **PowerPoint, Prezi etc**
- **On Paper - A3 minimum.**
- **In a booklet – A4 is fine for this.**

Use a variety of sources, books, videos and websites to complete these sections: (Keep a list of what you have used and hand this in. However, you MUST NOT use Wikipedia)

1. Write a biography of the person, company or individuals in the company
2. Look into the social, historical, cultural and political context that their work existed or exists in:
 - Social - what was society like at that time, what cultural concerns or themes are shaping their work?
 - Historical - what major events shaped the age and/or what recent world events might be influencing their work?

- Cultural - what artistic, cultural, literary and theatrical trends were prevalent, any current trends they follow
 - Political - the government and politics of the time and/or the political landscape which shaped their work
4. Contemporaneous and contemporary productions of their work - how has their work been received? Find reviews and accounts.
 5. What other practitioners influenced them and who was influenced in turn by their work?
 6. Rehearsal techniques, devising methods and exercises they use.
 7. Write 3 questions you have about this practitioner and the theatre company.

Revision materials – suggested revision.

You must show evidence of completing some revision work.

- Create flashcards/vocabulary lists for lighting and sound terminology.
- Create flash cards/diagrams or vocabulary lists for ground plans and staging.
- Create costume and make-up flash cards, vocabulary lists.
- Use BBC bitesize and Spark notes quizzes to test and recall your knowledge of dramatic vocabulary.