



Drama and Theatre

Welcome to A Level Drama and Theatre!

Tell us why you have chosen to take the Drama and Theatre course:

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During the first term, we will explore several different Theatre Practitioners and/or Theatre Companies. We will workshop the key principles which are characteristic of their style of performance work.

Task 1a: Find out how you might describe the performance style of the following:-

- Artaud
- Complicite
- Katie Mitchell
- Stanislavski
- Frantic Assembly
- Berkoff
- Mischief Theatre Company (also see Task 5)

During the first term you will explore how to apply these characteristic techniques used by Theatre Practitioners and/or Theatre Companies to your own work/to extracts from play texts set by the exam board.

Task 1.b, Using what you found out about the performance styles of the Theatre Practitioners listed above, choose TWO, and re-write 2 pages from a play you know well in this new style. You may also swap the genders of characters, change some of the character’s lines, twist the story/plot, delete some lines, add new stage directions and even change the location!

During the first term, you will begin to read and study 2 set texts, **The Trojan Women by Euripides** and **Accidental Death of an Anarchist by Dario Fo**.

Task 2: Use Google to find a plot summary for both these plays

Task 3: Research how an original production of both these plays might have looked. (see 3a & 3b)

Task 3a: *The Trojan Women* is a piece of Ancient Greek Theatre, find out about how a performance was staged in an Amphitheatre. Find a contemporary version of this play and find a theatre review of it.

Task 3b: *An Accidental Death of an Anarchist* how was it originally staged/where was it first performed? Find a theatre review of the original production or a recent production of it.

Task 4: Please follow the Drama Department Twitter account; WGS_Drama for further challenges, facts, theories, links and inspiration!

Task 5: At A-level, you may choose to be assessed as a performer or as a designer. In the exams, you will need to be able to analyse and evaluate performances based on a wide range of drama skills. **Watch a play over the summer (either at the theatre or online) and make a mind map of the design elements** you thought helped to generate meaning. This should include: lighting, sound, costume, staging and set design.

Don't forget to bring your findings to the first lesson back. See you soon!