

Year 11 into 12 transition task

Subject: Drama

The Drama Department is delighted that you are considering studying Drama and Theatre Studies at A level. In order to prepare yourself for the course, it is important that you read widely and think critically about what you read. With this in mind, please make sure you read some books from the attached reading list. To ensure you are ready to fully access the A level Syllabus you should complete the following tasks:

Task A

Find a play and learn a monologue from it.

Consider – Age & Gender

Emotional journey

Context of the character's own personal story within the text.

1. You will be performing the monologue to the class within the first week in September.
2. You should perform the monologue as if it is happening within a performance of the Play.
3. You should read the play in its entirety. Why do you think you need to do this?
4. It should be longer than 2 minutes in length.
5. You are permitted to edit the text, as long as it still makes sense to the text and the character. E.g. too long or a line from other characters can be removed.
6. You do not have to do an accent.
7. Be brave! Challenge yourself.
8. DO NOT leave it until the last minute.
9. Record yourself doing it.
10. Do it in front of a mirror.

Task B

Wider research – look in to the links between Theatre and Politics.

This could be how the political views of particular writers or practitioners affect their work, or how particular plays or movements express political views, or even about types of theatre which emerged in particular political contexts. Create a mind map, research collage or something interesting in response!

Specific practitioners to research in relation to Theatre and Politics are:

Konstanin Stanislavski

Anton Chekhov

Emile Zola

Bertolt Brecht

Peter Brook

Jerzy Grotowski

Augusto Boal

Antonin Artaud

Edward Gordon Craig

Dario Fo

Specific Theatrical movements/companies:

Mystery plays

Commedia D'ell Arte

Naturalism

Poor Theatre

German Expressionism

Frantic Assembly

Reading List

It is important to read at least 2 play texts from this list

Exam Board Prescribed Edition

Accidental Death Of An Anarchist, Dario Fo (adapted by Gavin Richards)

Methuen Drama ISBN 9780413156105

Colder Than Here, Laura Wade Oberon

Modern Plays ISBN 9781840024715

Equus, Peter Shaffer

Penguin Classics ISBN 9780141188904

Fences, August Wilson

Penguin Books Ltd (reissue edition 1991) ISBN 9780452264014

Machinal, Sophie Treadwell

Nick Hern Books ISBN 9781854592118

That Face, Polly Stenham

Antigone, Sophocles (adapted by Don Taylor) Methuen ISBN 9780413776044

Hedda Gabler, Henrik Ibsen (adapted by Richard Eyre)

Nick Hern Books ISBN 9781854598424

Lysistrata, Aristophanes (translated by Alan H. Sommerstein)

Penguin Classics ISBN 9780140448146

The Maids, Jean Genet (translated by Bernard Frechtman)

Avalon Travel Publishing ISBN 9780802150561

The School for Scandal, Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Dover Thrift ISBN 9780486266879

The Tempest, William Shakespeare

Cambridge Schools Edition ISBN 9780521618786

Waiting for Godot, Samuel Beckett

Faber & Faber ISBN 9780571229116

Woyzeck, Georg Büchner (translated by John Mackendrick)

Berg Publishing ISBN 9780413388209

To understand more about what this subject is about at a higher level:

These youtube videos are really interesting

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wCyvfScSuBE>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-828KqtTkA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p7F7H9ejM6E>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_0TAXWt8hY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SnbPAGeA6Ec>

Take a look at this website to help with monologue prep

http://iml.jou.ufl.edu/projects/s12/gair_j/character.html