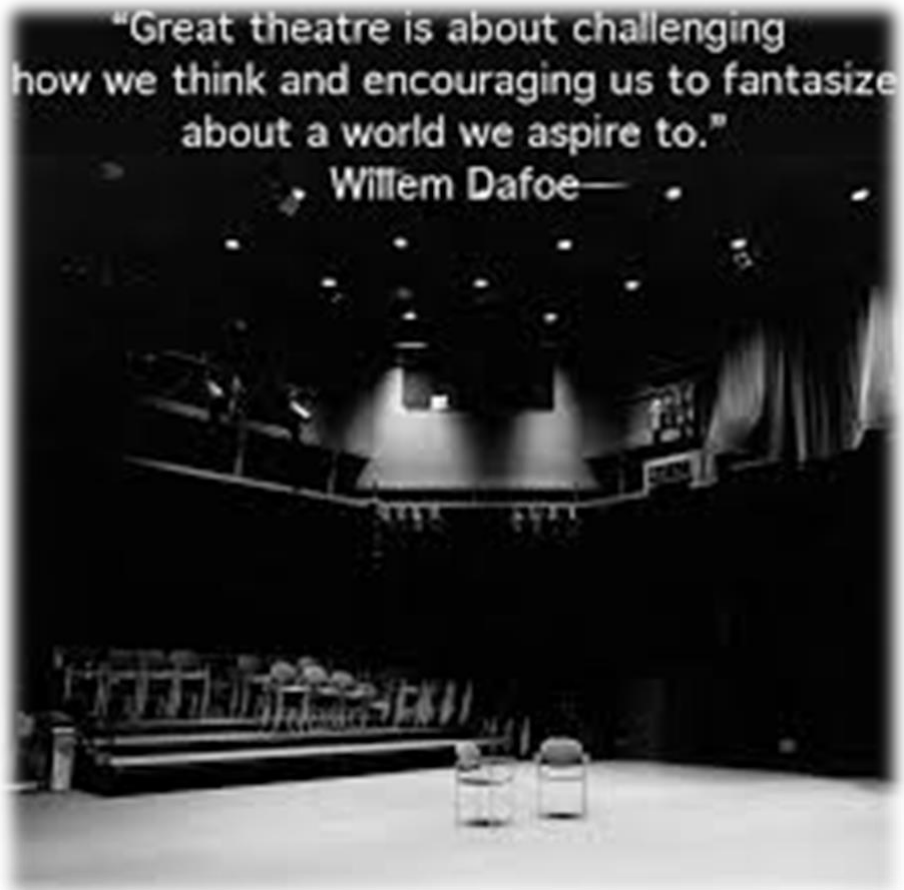


Drama Transition Work



Sections	Task Titles	Date completed	Your comments
A level course overviews			
Study of Play Texts	Accidental Death of an Anarchist (By Dario Fo) Bronte (By Polly Teale)		
Practitioners Research	Bertolt Brecht Constantin Stanislavski Frantic Assembly Paperbirds Theatre Complicite Katie Mitchell Punchdrunk		
Live Theatre Watching and Reviewing	Antigone Frankenstein Jane Eyre		
Optional Challenge: Exam style question	Exam Question (This is optional so you do not have to complete but it may help you to see what you can already do)		
<p><i>Any questions regarding the A Level Drama course please contact me</i> Rebekah.dale@paddington-academy.org</p>			

A Level Drama- Course Overview

Similar to GCSE Drama most exam boards (AQA, OCR, Edexcel and Eduquas) have three sections:

- Devising
- Scripted performance
- Written Exam

The % weighting of these is slightly different for each exam board but the skills they expect you to develop are the same:

- Understanding of wide range of style, time periods and practitioners
- Understanding of live theatre
- Ability to perform or design scripted work
- Ability to create theatrical work from a stimulus
- Ability to use practitioners as an influence for work

The most important thing you can do to prepare for A level drama is WATCH AS MUCH and READ AS MUCH plays as possible. However all of the tasks are aimed at making sure you have a good base knowledge, and have been introduced to A level playtexts.

Set Play Texts

The two main play texts you will study in A level drama are:

Accidental Death of an Anarchist by Dario Fo

And

Bronte by Polly Teale

You will explore these practically in class and write about them in your exam.

Your task: Read through both play texts and then answer

1. Describe the plot of each play by scene
2. Describe the characters in each play
3. How do the writers intend for the performance to be performed/ where do they take influence from? What information can you find out about this?

Hint: Brecht and Commedia

Practitioners Research

Task: Create an A4 poster on each practitioner. It should include:

- Who they are,
- Their background
- Information about what they want in theatre
- Information about their techniques/methods used in performance

Below is the list of practitioners and useful links for starting points for research:

Bertolt Brecht- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zxn4mp3/revision/1>

Constantin Stanislavski

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zwmvd2p/revision/1>

Frantic Assembly- <https://www.youtube.com/user/franticassembly>

Paperbirds- <https://www.thepaperbirds.com/> and lots on youtube

Theatre Complicite- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SnbPAGeA6Ec> &
<http://www.complicite.org/resources.php>

Katie Mitchell- <https://www.katiemitchell.co.uk/>

Punchdrunk- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mls7Op1DpKE>

Live Theatre-

TASK- After watching the three shows: Antigone, Frankenstein and Jane Eyre using links on next page, create a set of Cornell Notes as shown below on each show. Use as many of the key terms as possible.

What are Cornell Notes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ErSjciPEGKE>

Example Cornell Notes:

Title of play: Jane Eyre	Theatre Company: NT	Date watched: 14/06/21
Key Cues: Themes- family, dynamics, status, women, history Style- Naturalism Key Feature- Multi rolling, Chorus Design- Composite Set, Colour scheme, moveable	Main Notes: *Key scenes *Key Characters and Performance *Key Design Choices Key scene 1: Key scene 2: Key scene 3: Jane Eyre Performance: Rochester Performance: Mad Woman performance: Design notes: Grey, brown scheme, simplistic style, locations anywhere, use of music to set the scene didn't like, chorus moving set as part of flowing non stop transitions-greek theatre links	
Summary: (Your opinion on key scenes, characters, overall concepts) Liked: Naturalistic acting, feeling of sibling rivalry, believable accents, use of moveable set, use of chorus Disliked: use of sound, multi-rolling		

Watch National Theatres 'Antigone'

Follow the link to watch it. You may need to log in, so please use the details below.

Your access details are:

<https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/series/national-theatre-collection-iid-190464>

Username: 9Wd*0Ub+

Password: 2Yr.6An,

Watch National Theatres 'Frankenstein'

Your access details are:

https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350935020&tocid=do-9781350935020_6083697217001

Username: 9Wd*0Ub+

Password: 2Yr.6An,

Watch National Theatres 'Jane Eyre'

Your access details are:

https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350997738&tocid=do-9781350997738_6120709535001

Username: 9Wd*0Ub+

Password: 2Yr.6An,

A Level Style Question

The written exam in A level drama is made up of three sections:

- Section A- Drama through the ages- Play Accidental Death of an Anarchist- One question worth 25 marks
- Section B- 20th and 21st Centaury Texts- Play Bronte- Three questions worth 10 marks each
- Section C- Live Review- One question worth 25 marks

Example Section A Questions

Question 20 Teale: *Brontë*

Answer all parts of this question in reference to the extract printed in the enclosed Insert. You must make specific reference to the social, cultural **and/or** historical context of *Brontë* in your answers and ensure that your interpretative ideas are appropriate to the play as a whole.

The extract is from Act Two towards the end of the play.

2 0 . 1

Explain and justify how you would direct the actors from **line 21 to line 84** in order to demonstrate the relationship between Charlotte and Emily at this point in the play.

[10 marks]

2 0 . 2

As a performer, explain and justify how you would perform the role of Anne in this extract in order to create your preferred audience response to the character.

[10 marks]

2 0 . 3

As a designer, explain and justify how your ideas for setting and props would be appropriate to the period and action at this point in the play.

[10 marks]

Example Section B Questions

Fo: *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*

OR

1 1

As a director, **or** as a designer for lighting **and/or** sound, discuss how your ideas would contribute to the creation of a chaotic atmosphere in **two** separate sections of the play.

You must make specific reference to the social, cultural **and/or** historical context of *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* in your answer.

[25 marks]

OR

1 2

As a performer, playing **either** the role of Feletti, **or** the role of the Constable, discuss how your performance would achieve your intended audience response in **two** separate sections of the play.

You must make specific reference to the social, cultural **and/or** historical context of *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* in your answer.

[25 marks]

Example Section C Questions

EITHER

2	1
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Briefly explain how the director used one production element to create a dramatic impact at particular moments. Analyse and evaluate the contribution of your chosen element to the total dramatic effectiveness of the production.

[25 marks]

OR

2	2
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Briefly explain how the set and/or costume designer created a specific period setting for the production at particular moments. Analyse and evaluate the contribution that was made by the design(s) to the total dramatic effectiveness of the production.

[25 marks]

OR

2	3
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Briefly explain how two or more performers used their skills to create tension for the audience through their interaction at particular moments. Analyse and evaluate the contribution of the performers' skills to the total dramatic effectiveness of the production.

[25 marks]

OR

2	4
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Briefly explain how one or more performer(s) used their vocal and physical skills to engage the audience at particular moments. Analyse and evaluate the contribution of the performer(s)' use of these skills to the total dramatic effectiveness of the production.

[25 marks]

Optional Script Reading Tasks-

To expand your knowledge of theatre the two best things you can do is watch theatre and read theatre. Below are some links to some classic and modern plays/monologues that are A level suitable.