

A Level Drama and Theatre



In September you will begin studying A Level Edexcel Drama and Theatre. Over the course of Year 12 and 13 you will study a range of set texts, see a range of live theatre and create your own original theatre.

One of the set texts you will study is *Machinal* by Sophie Treadwell. It has been taught at St Mary's for 8 years and has been performed once by the sixth form in 2012 at St Mary's. It is a very popular play with the students and no doubt will continue to be so for 2018-19.

A Level Drama Summer Work

This work will prepare you for studying *Machinal* by Sophie Treadwell as part of Component Three (Written Exam) – you will need to analyse the language, non-verbal communication, aural, spatial visual elements, characterisation, interpretation of text and the social cultural and historical context of both plays studied. The second text you will explore is *Woyzeck* by Georg Buchner. You will also study a practitioner alongside *Woyzeck*.

In September you need to bring a dedicated Drama notebook/ scrapbook and file. Please complete the work below and bring it in either your notebook or printed out and put into your file

MUST DO – Work you must complete:

1. What is a theatre practitioner?
Find out and in your own words giving examples explain what this person does
2. **Bertolt Brecht** is a theatre practitioner.
Find out:
 - a) What he believes about acting
 - b) What his 'Epic Theatre' is giving examples
 - c) **Frantic Assembly** are a Theatre Company and are very different in their beliefs and practices, find out what he believes and compare it with Stanislavski

Your findings can be presented in variety of ways; either in a table, a fact sheet, a poster, written paragraphs, pictures with annotations etc. Select a way that is appropriate for you.

In total you should write approximately 250 words on each practitioner (500 words in total), whether that is in bullet points, words on a poster or in a paragraph

3. Look up the following terms and write definitions in your own words. Non-verbal communication, interpretation, visual, aural, spatial, expressionism characterisation,

SHOULD DO:

1. You should research life in the 1920s for women. What were their expected roles? What was the man's role? What was happening in New York in 1920s? What was expected of women in this time? How did they dress? What was their social life like? What was a 'loveless marriage'? What were flapper girls? What was prohibition?

Write a handbook titled 'A Guide to Being a Woman in America in the 1920s'. this should be no more than 800 words but no less than 500

2. Write two contrasting diary entries; one is a bored housewife in a loveless marriage, one is a flapper girl. How are their lives different? Each diary entry should be 200 words

COULD DO:

1. Write an answer to the following question: 300 words

How are women's lives different now compared to the 1920s in America?

See you in September!

Miss Stearman ☺