

TRANSITION INFORMATION

Year 11 into Year 12 Summer Transition Assignment Theatre Practitioners

The aim of this assignment is to develop an understanding of the acting techniques developed by theatre practitioners **Brecht** or **Stanislavski**. Students will also research the social, historical and political influences on their work. Knowledge of the work of these practitioners will allow students to experiment with their own performance style in the future.

Introduction

The new AQA a level requires research and analysis of different practitioners work. Being able to conduct research, evaluate research for effectiveness, and link research to your own ideas and reflections are key skills in the A level Drama and theatre studies. These skills will be used throughout the A level; from researching practitioners theories and ways of working in the devising module, to understanding social, cultural and political implications of practitioners and playwrights work in the written exam.

Learning outcomes

- Understand the performance techniques developed by Stanislavski or Brecht.
- Understand the social, historical and political context of the work of Brecht or Stanislavski.
- Understand the key features of **Epic theatre** or **Naturalism** in the theatre.

Task 1: Research

Use the websites and resources below to research both influential drama practitioners. Make sure you note down where your information came from as you will need to make this clear later on. Take the time to reflect on what influences these practitioners may have had on work that you have produced and performances you have seen. Make an educated decision on which practitioner you would like to understand further.

Useful websites

www.youtube.com- *Look up clips of Brecht and Stanislavski!*

www.nationaltheatre.org.uk- *Look up their latest performance of '3 Penny Opera'*

www.bbc.co.uk/education

www.plays.about.com

www.theatrefutures.org.uk

www.unicorntheatre.com

www.vam.ac.uk/page/t/theatre-history

Useful books

Jewers S, Carnaghan C and Webster P – BTEC National Performing Arts Student Book

Jewers S, Carnaghan C and Webster P – BTEC National Teacher Resource Pack

Shellard D – British Theatre Since the War

Hodge A – Twentieth Century Actor Training

Bentley E – The Theory of the Modern Stage

Brook P – The Empty Space

Innes C – Modern British Drama 1890 to 1990

Stanislavski C- An Actor's Handbook

Stanislavski C- An Actor Prepares

Plays by Bertolt Brecht

Mother Courage and Her Children

The Threepenny Opera

The Caucasian Chalk Circle

The Good Person of Szechwan

Fear and Misery of the Third Reich

Task 2: Project Work

You will produce a project, which shows you have met the three learning outcomes above. You will need to conduct research and show your findings in a neat and organised way. You may want to include:

- Brainstorms
- Posters
- Extended writing
- Bullet points/ notes
- Pictures/ photographs that have been annotated
- Articles
- Theatre reviews

The work must be your own and any quotes must be referenced. Please see the advice on Harvard Referencing that has been included.

This project must be handed into Miss Hansford or Mrs Bennett