

Welcome to Year 7 Drama!

Please can we leave our bags by the wall and get in alphabetical order of your last names.

3 Reward points each if we do this correctly!



The Actors Toolkit!

Physical Skills



What tools (skills) might an actor use to perform?

Vocals Skills



What do we have here?

- **The year is 1870**
- **The body of a young girl named Charlotte Dymond has been found on the Moors**
- **She has been MURDERED**

Detective Inspector....

- **The Chief Detective Inspector has brought some evidence for you...**
- **You are no longer a Year 7 student, you are now going to 'Work In Character' as a Detective and investigate this case**
- **Look carefully at the evidence to see what clues you can find!**



Dress she was wearing, with close ups of the fabric



One shoe

Blood spattered shawl



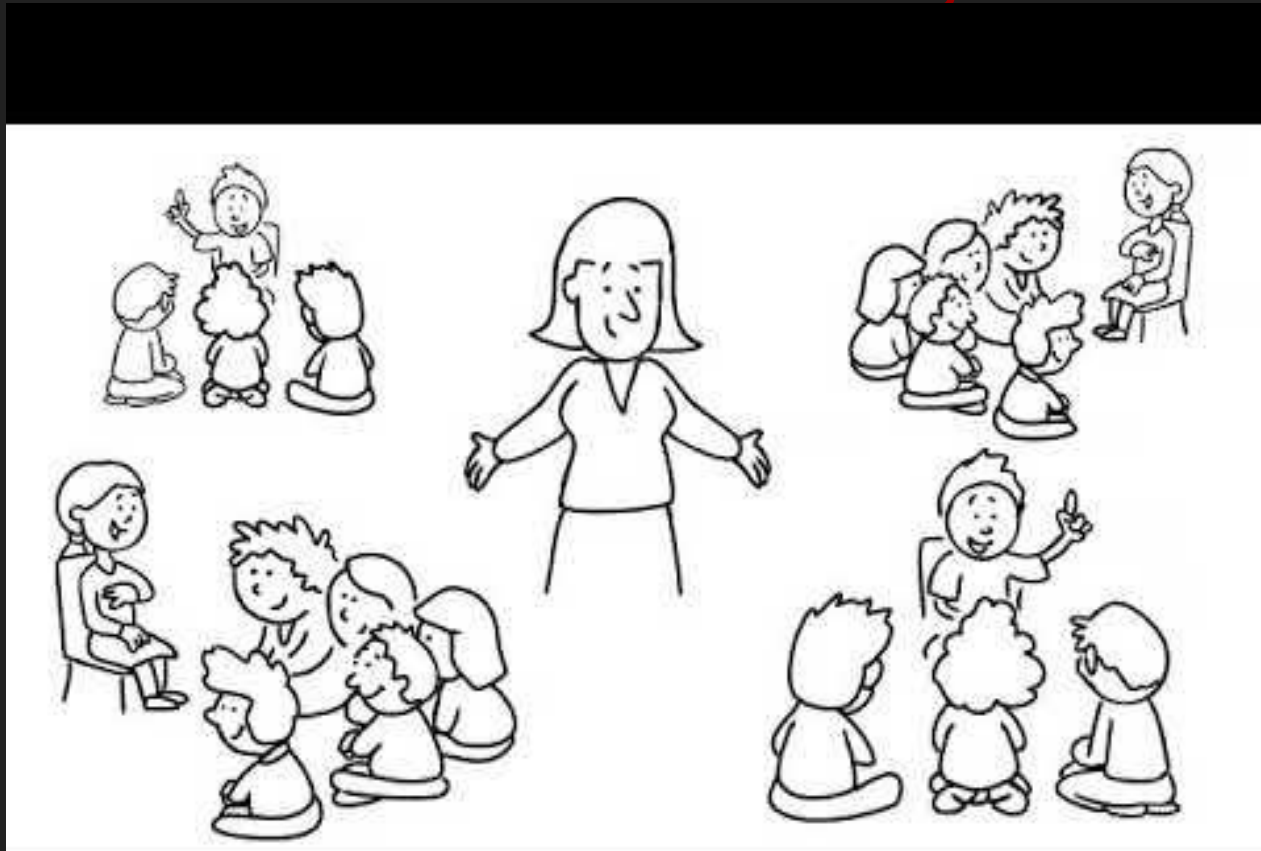
Set of Pearls



Evidence.

- What information did you gather from the evidence?
- What sort of person was Charlotte Dymond?
- How old was she? Did she have a job? Was she rich / poor? Where might she have lived? Where might she have been going? Why and How was she MURDERED!?

What is hot seating?



What is hot seating?

Hot seating is answering questions as though you are actually in that character's mind! It helps you to think and feel like them.

We call this 'working in character' in drama.

Detectives, we have had some new suspects come forward... We need to interview them to see if there is any more information on the case!

EVIDENCE

EVIDENCE

Who Do We Have Here?

Lord and Lady Thomas - the people who were hosting the party on the night of Charlotte's murder. Very wealthy and have a lot of power! Lady Thomas doesn't seem to like Charlotte as she was seen to be spending a lot of time with her husband! She also had been seen to be wearing expensive items that she claimed were 'gifts'... but who from?

Lord Thomas refuses to comment, but was recently seen in the jewelers nearby purchasing an expensive pearl necklace.... Suspicious!

EVIDENCE

Who Do We Have Here?

Matthew Weeks - Charlotte's finance who she is due to marry in a few months time. They have been an item for almost a year now, following a short relationship between Matthew and Charlotte's sister, Alice! Matthew has recently lost his job at a local factory and struggles with drinking and becoming easily aggravated... particularly with Charlotte who he 'no longer trusts'.

Matthew Weeks

Lord Thomas

Lady Thomas

Alice Dymond

EVIDENCE



Who Do We Have Here?

Some images of the party have been sent into the police station... but these are not normal images... they are still images!!!



What is a still image?

A large, grey, cloud-like thought bubble with a smaller bubble leading to it from the bottom left. The text inside is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.



Is this an interesting and effective still image?



Why?



Is this an interesting and effective still image?



Variety

Interesting, clear facial expressions

All characters involved

Different levels and positions

Completely still!

Creative and dynamic

You are now going to create
your own living photograph, in
Drama we call this a
'Still Image'
(Not a freeze frame!)



Facial
Expression

Gesture

Eye
contact

A successful
'Still Image'
has...

Body
Language

Uses the
space

Includes
levels

Clear
characters



You are now going to add a Thought Track...

A Thought Track is when a character speaks
their thoughts and feelings out loud -
(NOT A CONVERSATION WITH ANOTHER
PERSON!)

FLASHBACKS

- A Flashback is a scene that includes speech and movement (role play) and tells the audience something important that happened in the past.
- What do you think Charlotte's life was like before she was murdered?
- Was she happy / sad?
- How did she get on with her family and fiancé?

FLASH-FORWARD

- A Flash-forward is the same technique but tells the audience something that happens in the future.
- We are now going to jump forward to after Charlotte's death - when the Police interviewed the suspects!

· WHO ARE OUR SUSPECTS?

What are these drama techniques?

Still image

Thought
Tracking

Hot Seating

Flash
Forward

Flashback

3, 2, 1 - ACTION!

We can use a 'dramatic freeze' to help build up suspense for an audience

- Add in a freeze just before the murder happens!
- What does this add to the scene?
- Has the scene been improved?
- Does the death look more dramatic?

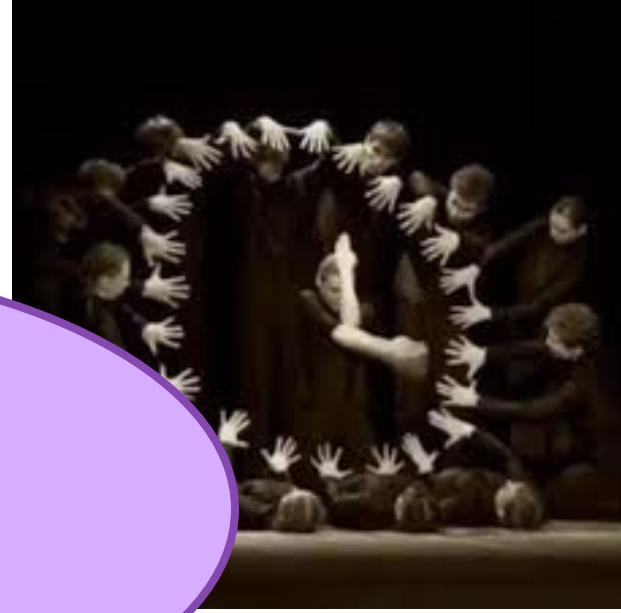


Welcome to Year 8 Drama!

Please can we leave our bags by the wall and sit in a **semicircle** in **alphabetical order** of **last name**.

3 Reward Points each if we manage to do this correctly!

Connect Task



What is
Physical
Theatre?





What are the performers creating using their bodies?



Start at 1 min
20

Physical Theatre is...



Movement driven theatre that uses the body to **create shapes and tell stories**

Characteristics of Physical Theatre are...

- **Movement**
- **Mime**
- **Gesture**
- **Dance**



Music, Props, Puppetry and Shadow Theatre are often used to help create interesting Physical theatre, but the main emphasis is on using your body

Learning Objectives:

To understand what Physical Theatre is and the characteristics of Physical Theatre

To develop knowledge of Physical Theatre companies

To experiment with and develop use of movement skills



- WHAT WAS THE STORY ABOUT?
- WAS IT CLEAR?
- WHAT WAS MISSING THAT YOU WOULD NORMALLY SEE IN A PERFORMANCE?
- DID IT MATTER THAT IT WAS MISSING?

Physical Theatre:

Using the body, and movement, to tell the story, rather than relying on the spoken word.

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Using the body, and movement, to tell the story, rather than relying on the spoken word.



Why do performers choose to use Physical Theatre?



How do we create interesting and effective Physical Theatre?



Ingredients of a good piece of Physical Theatre!

- Be imaginative!
- Using clear positions and actions
 - Clear facial expression
 - Good use of space
- Different heights and levels
 - Everyone being involved
- Showing clear relationships between people
 - Moving fluidly into position
 - Create interesting sounds

Example



What performance techniques did these companies use as well as Physical Theatre?

Gymnastics



Transitions and dance

Shadow Theatre



Plenary

What do you and your group need to work on next lesson before you perform?

A minute to discuss then choose a spokesperson to share back to the class.

Year 9 Drama

Please can we leave our bags by the wall and sit in a **semicircle** in **register order** (alphabetically).

3 Reward points if we can do this first time round!

Connect Task

Is the acting in these TV soaps realistic? DISCUSS





What does
**Naturalistic
Theatre**
mean?

Drama that
presents events
on stage as they
would happen in
real life.

What is a Practitioner?



"A theatre practitioner is a person or theatre company that creates practical work or theories to do with performance and theatre"

Who was Stanislavski?

Stan felt that the



CREATED USING
BwToon



The 'Given Circumstance'/Magic If

This has been described by Stanislavski as understanding:

'The plot, the facts, the incidents, the period, the time and place of the action, the way of life'

In partners, I want you to watch the following clip and think about the character in the scene.

Can you guess their 'given circumstances' just by looking at how they act?

Given Circumstance/Magic If Example: 'Juliet'



What do you think is:

- The plot/ action
- The time
- The place of the action
- The characters

I will be asking for responses after the clip.

Emotion Memory

This is where an actor recalls a time they felt a specific emotion to get into the mindset of the character.

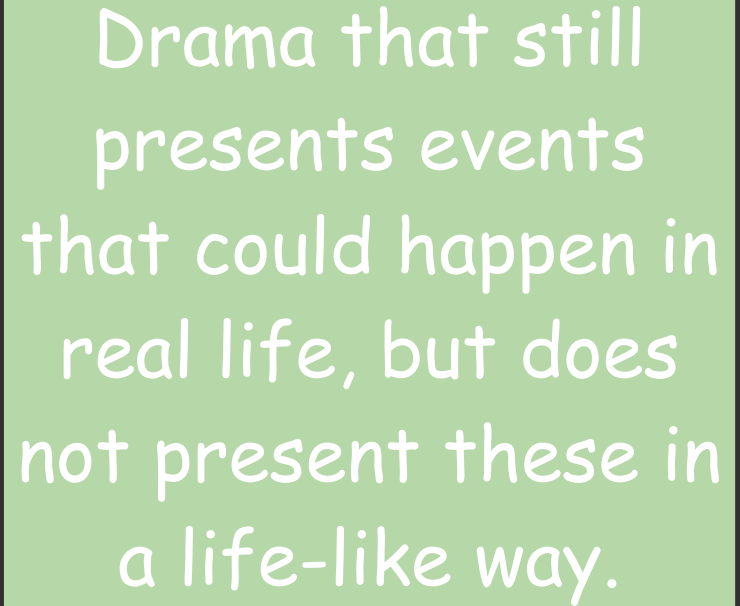
The circumstances might be different but the emotion - and how you reacted to it - will be similar.

Did Juliet seem genuinely upset when she was crying?

To do this she will have thought about an occasion that really made her feel that way to recall the actions/reactions in the same way.

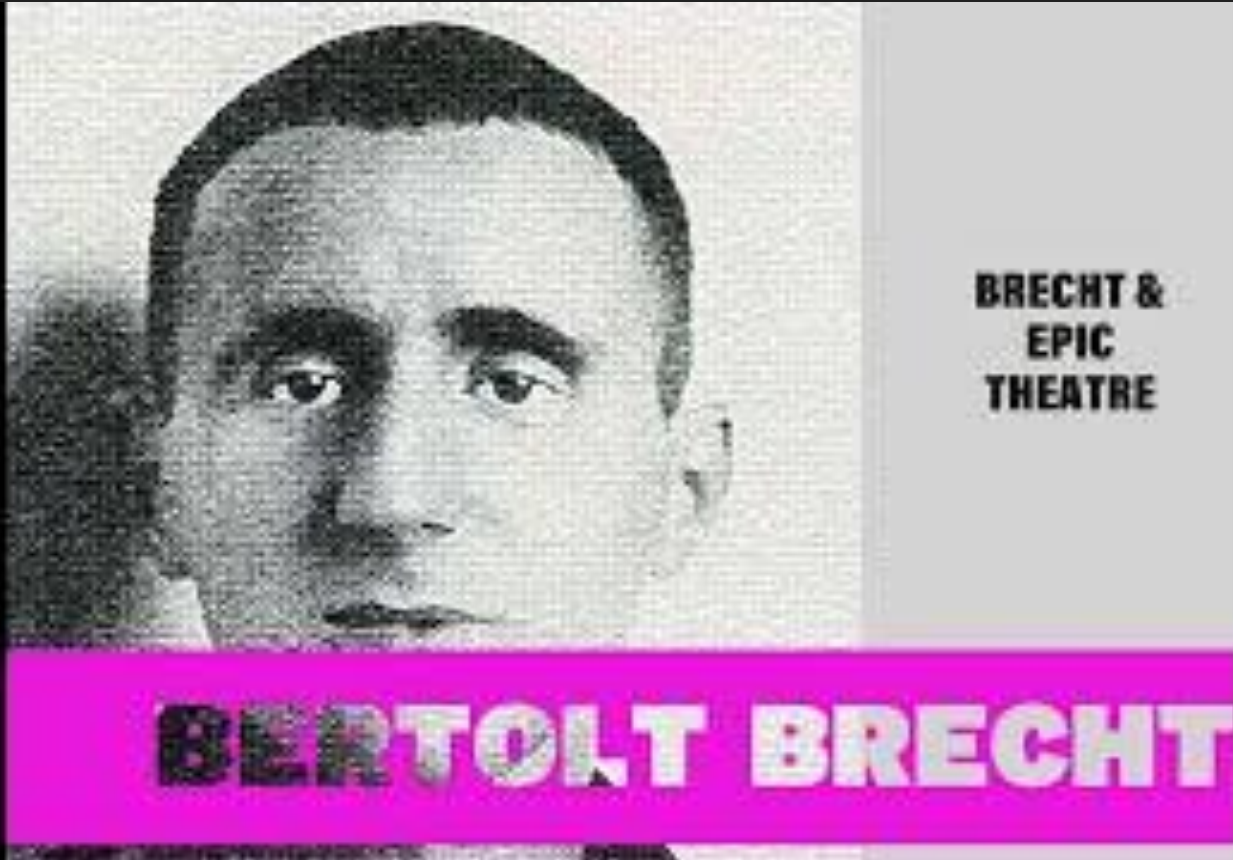


What does
Non-naturalistic
Theatre mean?



Drama that still
presents events
that could happen in
real life, but does
not present these in
a life-like way.

Who was Bertolt Brecht?





Brecht didn't want the audience to be watching a performance that was like real life.

Brecht wanted his audience to take away and think about a political message.



Brechtian Technique: Placards!

The next technique that we are going to focus on is
Placards

Placards In Practice



While you are watching,
think about what the
placards are teaching or
telling you

Would you know these
things as an audience if the
placards were taken away?



Why do we use them?



Placards are used as a physical form of narration. They give key facts to the audience, or tell the audience something that the dialogue in the play does not - for example, if a performance was to go back in time, someone on stage may hold up a sign saying:

**2 WEEKS EARLIER,
PARIS, FRANCE**

We are going to be looking at some Physical
Theatre practitioners...

Frantic Assembly:



- Frantic Assembly are one of the UK's leading physical theatre companies.
- They have created a number of movement driven shows. Some of these shows have been devised, and some based on script.
- They adapted the play and novel 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime'...

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English Literature

National
Theatre
Live

THE
CURIOUS
INCIDENT
OF THE **DOG** IN THE
NIGHT-TIME

BASED ON THE BEST-SELLING
NOVEL BY
MARK HADDON
ADAPTED BY
SIMON STEPHENS

