

Understanding and Evaluating Drama

Y8 Term 5

Knowledge Organiser



SHREK THE MUSICAL

Students must develop their ability to:

- Use Drama and theatre terminology appropriately
- Work with different staging configuration
- Evaluate a piece of Live Theatre

USE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING IN EXPLORING A SET TEXT and EVALUATING A PIECE OF LIVE THEATRE

Shrek the Musical - Plot

The greatest fairy tale never told, SHREK the musical based on the smash-hit film.

Set in a mythical “once upon a time” sort of land, Shrek the Musical is the story of a hulking green ogre who, after being mocked and feared his entire life by anything that crosses his path, retreats to an ugly green swamp to exist in happy isolation. Suddenly, a gang of homeless fairy-tale characters (Pinocchio, Cinderella, the Three Pigs, you name it) raid his sanctuary, saying they’ve been evicted by the vertically challenged Lord Farquaad. So Shrek strikes a deal: I’ll get your homes back, if you give me my home back! But when Shrek and Farquaad meet, the Lord strikes a deal of his own: He’ll give the fairy-tale characters their homes back, if Shrek rescues Princess Fiona. Shrek obliges, yet finds something appealing—something strange and different—about this pretty princess. He likes her. A lot. But why does she always run off when the sun sets?

SHREK The Musical: From Swamp to Stage.

Watch the behind the scenes videos here to learn about many of the backstage elements that led to the making of Shrek the Musical.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOyJ-n-mQEE&list=PL74103C89A85F6DB6>



Key Drama and Theatre terminology

Props- items that actors use in a performance.

Set- the scenery and furniture on stage.

Flat – A piece of 2D scenery consisting of a frame, usually covered with canvas, onto which scenery is painted, weights are used to keep a flat upright.

Truck – A platform on castors which can be wheeled onto stage and locked into positions as part of the scenery

Flies – Objects that are flown into the stage area

Flying – Lifting scenery into the space above the stage or suspending an actor in a harness to give the illusion of flying

Hydraulics – Mechanisms which use pressure to raise or lower scenery and actors

Revolve – A stage with a large circular area that can be rotated either as part of the action or to reveal new sets.

Rostra – Platforms to create different levels on stage

Cyclorama – Material that is used to create a back drop and when back lit becomes transparent.

Trap Door – A cut through section of the stage floor through which actors or scenery can appear.

Tabs – Any curtains on stage

Backcloth/drop – A canvas that is spread the width of the back of the stage and onto which scenery is painted.

4th Wall – the invisible wall between the actors and the audience.

Proscenium Arch – traditional picture frame on raised stage