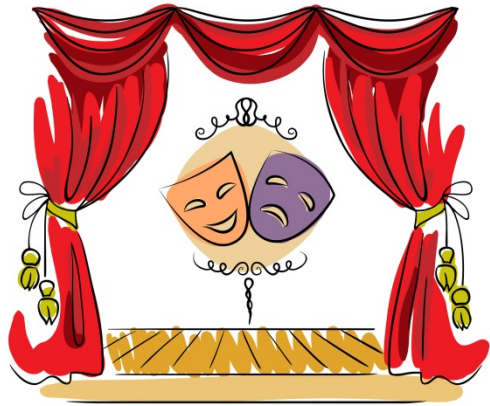


Y11 Term 2

Knowledge Organiser



Understanding Drama

Students must develop their ability to:

- Use Drama and theatre terminology appropriately
- Understand the roles and responsibilities of theatre makers in contemporary theatre
- Apply correct stage positioning in written and practical work
- Work with different staging configuration

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

Theatre Makers: What do they do?

Producer : responsibility for entire one off production

Director: creative control of a single specific production

Stage Manager: in charge of everything backstage

Theatre Manager: responsibility for front of house

Artistic Director: in charge of a theatre company

Set Designer: creative responsibility for the set

Sound Designer: creative responsibility for sound

Lighting Designer: creative responsibility for lighting

Production Team: the creative and technical team

Stage Crew: all working backstage during the show

Actors: the company members who perform

Theatre Company: All members of a specific company

Staging

In the round – audience all around a circular acting space.

Thrust – stage extends out into the audience

Proscenium Arch – traditional picture frame on raised stage

Upstage right - UR

Upstage centre - UC

Upstage left - UL

Centre stage - CS

Downstage right - DR

Downstage centre - DC

Traverse – the staging works like a catwalk with audience either side

End on – the play is performed one end of the theatre space

Promenade – the audience follows the action of the play around the space

Key Drama and Theatre terminology

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

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

Distress – A technique for simulating the effects of age or wear and tear on costumes, settings and props.

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

Projections – A technique for simulating the effects of age or wear on costumes, settings and props

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

Pyrotechnics – Fireworks used on stage

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

Rostrum – Platforms to create different levels on stage

Transpose – To move the setting or period of a play in a production, from its original setting or context to a suitable alternative.

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.