

RHS DRAMA DEPARTMENT

GCSE → A LEVEL TRANSITION



Task 1: Theatre experience

Go and watch as much theatre as you can. If you cannot access live theatre try the drama online library - those highlighted come highly recommended! Try to watch a minimum of three new plays and write a short review for each, commenting on the direction, performers and design elements. You will need to present one of these back at the start of September.

www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/

(email r.d'souza@rugbyhighschool.co.uk or a.sabin@rugbyhighschool.co.uk for log in details)

ANTIGONE: https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350997684&tocid=do-9781350997684_6120704226001

FRANKENSTEIN: https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350935020&tocid=do-9781350935020_6083697217001

JULIUS CAESAR: https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350935167&tocid=do-9781350935167_6083703601001

SMALL ISLAND: https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350999084&tocid=do-9781350999084_6146529417001

STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE: https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350999039&tocid=do-9781350999039_6146537561001

BARBER SHOP CHRONICLES: https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350932890&tocid=do-9781350932890_6263820507001

PARADISE: https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350928657&tocid=do-9781350928657_6283365132001

CHEWINg GUM DREAMS: https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350928688&tocid=do-9781350928688_6286751389001

UNDER MILKWOOD: https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350883697&tocid=do-9781350883697_6340420252112

WUTHERING HEIGHTS: https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350888159&tocid=do-9781350888159_6329384441112

Task 2: Research

We study 'Our Country's Good' by Timberlake Wertenbaker which is set in the first penal colony in Australia in 1788.

Conduct your own research into the first fleet, Captained by Arthur Phillip. Your research might include:

- Why Great Britain chose to transport convicts to Australia
- The officers, their ranks, philosophies, interests etc. including:
 - Arthur Phillip
 - Ralph Clarke
 - Robert 'Robbie' Ross
 - David Collins
 - Watkin Tench
- The convicts, their backgrounds, interests and crimes. If they were released what did they go on to do etc. including:
 - Mary 'Dabby' Bryant
 - Mary Brenham
 - Robert Sideway
 - John Wisehammer
- The conditions on the ships when the convicts were transported
- The types of punishments the convicts would endure

Task 3: Read plays

Read plays! It would be good to read plays that follow the AQA practitioner list (though not essential - all wider reading is encouraged!) We have lots of plays you can borrow in the department, you can get some reasonably priced second-hand plays online, or go to your local library.

Some of the practitioners we look at are:

Frantic Assembly: www.franticassembly.co.uk/productions

Max Stafford-Clarke: www.outofjoint.co.uk/prods/pastprods.html

Berkoff: www.stevenberkoff.com/plays

Kneehigh: <https://thisiskneehigh.co.uk/>

Task 4: Terminology

Complete the definitions for any terms you do not know. Once you have identified any gaps in your knowledge, find a picture or video links that show an example of the term and save into a word document:

Accent	Cyclorama	Fly
Accessories	Develop	Form
Amateur theatre	Devise	Focusing
Amplifier	Dialogue	Fresnel
Analyse	Digital recording/live streaming	Functionality
Angling	Distortion	Furnishings
Artistic intention	Documentary theatre	FX
Birdie	Downstage	Gait
Blackout	Dramatic climax	Gauze
Body language	Drapes	Gel
Centre stage	Dressing	Genre
Character	Echo	Gesture
Character interaction	Effect	Gobo
Character motivation	Emotional range	Grease paint
Choral movement	End on staging	Gum
Choral speaking	Entrance	Inflection
Clarity of diction	Epic theatre	Intensity
Collaborate	Ethnic authenticity	Intonation and phrasing
Colour	Evaluate	Lamp
Commedia dell'arte	Exit	Language
Comedy	Fabric	Lantern
Communicate meaning	Facial expression	Levels
Construction materials	Fade	Location
Coordination	Filter	Material
Creating	Flat	Melodrama
Cross fade	Flood	Microphone
Cue		Mood and atmosphere

Movement	Shape	Tragedy
Multimedia	Social, cultural and historical context	Traverse staging
Musical theatre	Soundscape	Trimming
Naturalism	Spatial relationships	Trucks
Pace		Upstage
Pause		Volume
Performance conventions		
Performer manipulation		
Performance space		
Period		
Physical theatre		
Pitch		
Plot		
Positioning		
Posture		
Production values		
Professional theatre		
Profile	Specialism	
Projection (design)	Special effect	
Projection (vocal)	Smoke machine	
Promenade staging	Stage directions	
Proscenium arch staging	Staging configuration	
Prop	Stage positioning	
Prosthetics	Stimuli	
Pyrotechnics	Strobe	
Refine	Style	
Rehearse	Subtext	
Research	Texture	
Reverb	Theatre in education	
Revolve	Theatre in the round staging	
Rigging	Theatrical conventions	
Rhythm	Thrust staging	
Scale	Time	
Shadow	Timing	