

TRANSITION WORK



DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES 2020

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We follow the OCR Drama and Theatre A Level specification, which is divided into four components:

Component	Content	Weighting
11 – Practitioners in Practice	Devising Drama	40% of A Level
21- Exploring and Performing Texts	Scripted Performance	20% of A Level
31 – Analysing Performance	Written Exam- Othello, Frankenstein and Live Theatre Evaluation	20% of A Level
46- Deconstructing Texts	Written Exam – The Crucible	20% of A Level

More information for each of the components can be found in the “A Level Drama and Theatre Student Handbook”. Please email lwilson@guildfordcounty.co.uk if you would like a copy.

The following work is designed to help you prepare for Components 11 and 46. It will also help us form a baseline assessment by giving an opportunity to complete a Live Theatre Evaluation as part of Component 31.

Please collate all work in an A4 ring binder. This will be taken in to review by your Drama Teachers and will form the beginnings of your Drama File.

Reading list (books / academic articles / journals etc)

Component 46- The Crucible:

- Read and annotate the full text of The Crucible by Arthur Miller. (Penguin. ISBN- 10: 0141182555 OR 13: 978-0141182551).
- “Why I Wrote the Crucible- An artist’s answer to politics”. Arthur Miller, The New Yorker, October 14th 1996.
- “The Unwelcome Truth”: Arthur Miller’s The Crucible as Satirical Political Allegory. Deanna Marie Mattia, Montclair State University, 2018.

Component 11- Practitioners in Practice:

- Explore the following website covering a wide range of practitioners and genres: <https://www.bl.uk/20th-century-literature/themes/theatre-practitioners-and-genres>

General

- Explore the ‘Behind the Scenes’ section of the Old Vic’s Education Hub https://www.oldvictheatre.com/join-in/education-hub?utm_source=wordfly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ECYourOldVic-general&utm_content=version_A&promo=14622

Documentaries

General Theatre

The National Theatre- have their own YouTube channel, you should subscribe to it. Any video you watch from the channel will be beneficial but pay particular attention to the “How We Made It” and “How You Can Make It” clips.

Component 11- Devising Drama

Frantic Assembly- also have their own YouTube channel, you should also subscribe to it. All of their videos are brilliant.

Component 46- The Crucible

Salem Witch Trial Full Documentary- The Geographic Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ddKfab3exg>

What is McCarthyism? And how did it happen?- Ellen Schrecker TED-Ed Talk:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N35lugBYH04>

Podcasts

General Theatre

National Theatre Podcast series: <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/podcast>

Component 11- Devising Drama

Frantic Assembly Podcast Series: <https://www.franticassembly.co.uk/the-frantic-podcast>

BBC Sounds- Great Lives- Bertolt Brecht: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b00rt9rh>

Written work required

Component 31- Live Theatre Evaluation. This will act as part of your baseline assessment.

There are many wonderful opportunities to watch live theatre, from your own home, during Lockdown. Lots of these opportunities are free. We strongly recommend watching as many as you can. This website is updated every day and has a list of lots of amazing play's available for you to watch: https://www.whatsonstage.com/london-theatre/news/stage-shows-musicals-opera-free-stream-online_51198.html

Pick ONE of the following questions to answer:

Evaluate a live performance you have seen explaining how closely the production reflected the conventions of that performance style of drama.

At the start of your answer state the name, venue and date (month and year) of the live performance you have seen. (30 Marks)*

OR

Analyse a live performance you have seen, outlining the director's interpretation and how effective you think it was.

At the start of your answer state the name, venue and date (month and year) of the live performance you have seen. (30 Marks)*

**The written exam carries 60 marks in total and the time allowance for the paper is 2hours 15minutes.*

Component 11 Devising Drama:

Create a practitioner study on the following theatre makers: **Bertolt Brecht** and **Frantic Assembly**.

For each practitioner you should research:

- Theatrical concepts, style, teachings and methods.
- The historical, social and cultural context of the practitioner.
- Key influences that have shaped their work.
- Their own “footprint” on theatre: How have they changed theatre? Who have they influenced?

You should have two practitioner studies completed by September.

Component 46- The Crucible:

- Create a profile for key characters including details of: status; relationships with others; objectives and super-objectives.
- Research Historical, Social, Political and Cultural Context of The Crucible (The Salem Witch Trials and McCarthyism in America).
- Research the themes of the play and justify how these can be linked to the McCarthy trials and are still prevalent in our society today.