

Click to play



A Level Drama & Theatre

Post 16 Subject Project

Welcome and thank you for choosing A Level Drama & Theatre at Post 16. Whether you have studied drama previously or new to the subject, have been a student at Macmillan Academy or joining us from another school, the drama department are excited to have you as part of our team. To help you prepare for the A Level course we would like you to undertake the tasks that follow. Please bring any work you complete with you when the course begins, we can't wait to see what you produce.

On the following slide there is an overview of what the Drama and Theatre course involves. There are also keys next to assessments/examinations that are used throughout this project to enable you to make links between the tasks you complete within the project and what you can expect from the course.

We hope you enjoy the tasks set for you, introducing you to a range of theatre practitioners and allowing you to implement their theories in a creative way. We look forward to working with you during the A level course but in the meantime please get in touch with a member of the drama department if you require any help or support.

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Component 1



C1 - Devising

Coursework - 40% of final grade

Internally assessed and externally moderated

- Creation of an original performance as part of a group
- Ideas based on an extract from a play and one key practitioner
- Performance of work to an audience and completion of a written portfolio

Component 2



C2 - Text in Performance

Coursework - 20% of final grade

Visiting examiner

- Performance of a group piece to an audience and visiting examiner
- Performance of a monologue to a visiting examiner

Component 3



C3 - Theatre Makers in Practice

Written examination - 2 hours 30 mins

40% of final grade

- One question based on a Live Theatre production seen
- Two questions based on the play 'That Face'
- One question based on the play 'Lysistrata' and Brecht

The Big Picture!

- To create your own monologue / duologue from lyrics from a song.
- To research and apply the methodologies of 3 different theatre practitioners
- To evaluate the process and final product

Click to play





The Beyoncélogues



Nina Millin (opposite) has used Beyoncé's songs to inspire the creation of some dramatic monologues. Her work really highlights the meaning of the lyrics, which sometimes gets lost in the music. They are also very entertaining to watch 😊

Follow the link below and watch Nina Millin's dramatic performance of 'Irreplaceable'

<https://youtu.be/MmARjBaHHSs>



We would then like you to analyse and evaluate how she has turned this into a dramatic performance - this only needs to be a paragraph

Questions you may ask yourself could be:

How has she used vocal skills to communicate how she is feeling?

How has she used physical skills (gestures, facial expressions) to communicate how she is feeling?

Do you think this is a successful performance? Explain your opinion.



Look at the text of Nina Millin's dramatic performance of Irreplaceable on the next slide.

You will notice that she has edited the song lyrics by omitting lines that were too repetitive or didn't make sense.

She is clearly talking to another person - could you annotate the monologue with what the other person may be saying to her. This would then create a duologue (a speech between two characters)

Irreplaceable by Nina Millin (adapted from Beyonce)

To the left, to the left
Everything you own in the box to the left
In the closet, that's my stuff
Yes, if I bought it, please don't touch
And keep talking that mess, that's fine
But could you walk and talk at the same time? And
It's my name that's on that Jag
So remove your bags, let me call you a cab
Standing in the front yard
Tellin' me how I'm such a fool
Talking 'bout how I'll never ever find a man like you
You got me twisted
You must not know 'bout me, you must not know 'bout me
I could have another you in a minute
Matter of fact, he'll be here in a minute, baby
You must not know 'bout me, you must not know 'bout me
I can have another you by tomorrow
So don't you ever for a second get to thinking
You're irreplaceable

So go ahead and get gone
Call up that chick and see if she's home
Oops, I bet you thought that I didn't know
What did you think I was puttin' you out for?
Because you was untrue
Rolling her around in the car that I bought you
Baby, drop them keys
Hurry up before your taxi leaves
So since I'm not your everything
How about I'll be nothing?
Nothing at all
I won't shed a tear for you
I won't lose a wink of sleep
'Cause replacing you is so easy



OVERTO YOU



Task

1. Select a song that you feel has lyrics that are clearly telling a story. Remember this will form the script that you will use through the following tasks in this transition project.
2. Type up the lyrics into a script. During this part of the task you can omit certain lines that are repeated or remove lines that don't fit the story that is being told. You should aim for one side of A4.

Extra: it might be interesting for you to record yourself on your phone performing your new monologue. This will allow you to make comparisons later on in the project!

The Big Picture!

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Task 2

To research Stanislavski's 'The System' and apply elements to explore the monologue / duologue created from lyrics.



Konstantin Stanislavski

This is Stanislavski (1863 - 1938) a well know theatre practitioner who develop a method for actors known as 'The System' this was used by actors to help develop a believable character performance.

He felt that his actors needed to fully understand the character they are playing.

Task 1

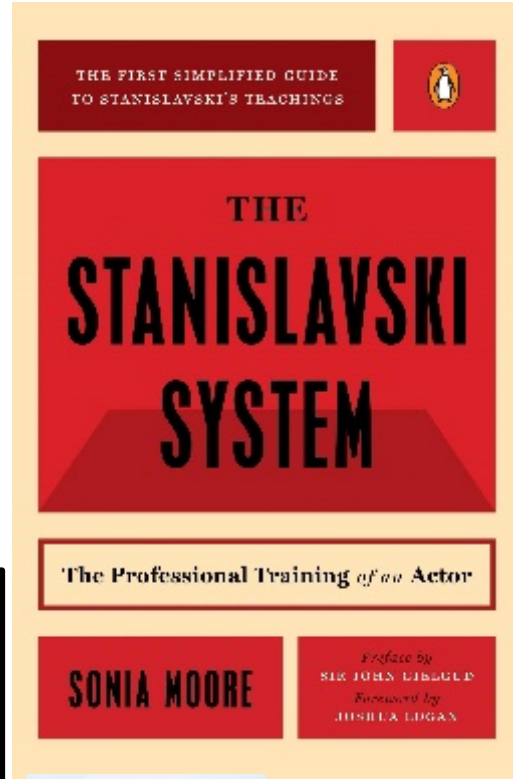
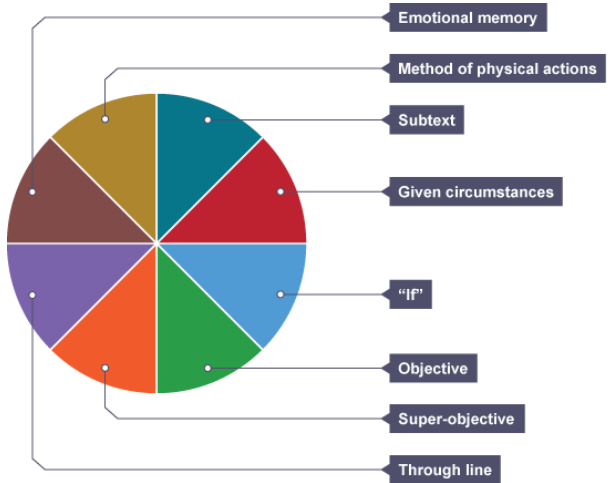
Follow the various links below to read, explore and research the steps within Stanislavski's 'The System' to developing a believable performance. Record your notes to help with further character development.

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zxn4mp3/revision/5>
- <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=OR8g0kOLJY8>

Task 2

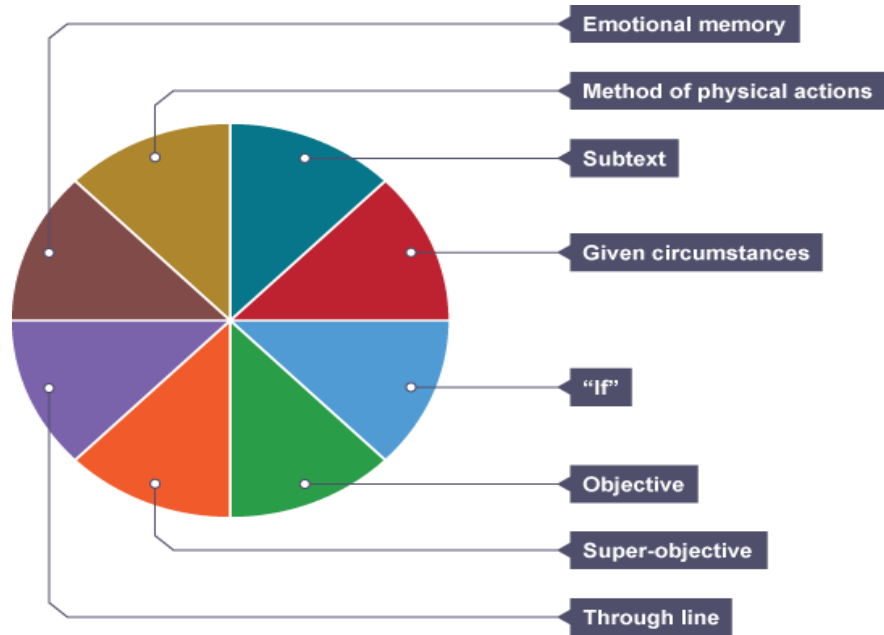
Apply elements of 'The System' to explore the 'Duologue / Monologue' you created from the lyrics of your chosen song.

Record your decisions on the next slide.



Stanislovski

Use this slide to make notes on the key features of 'The System'. Focus especially on defining the three named techniques.



Research notes on 'The System'

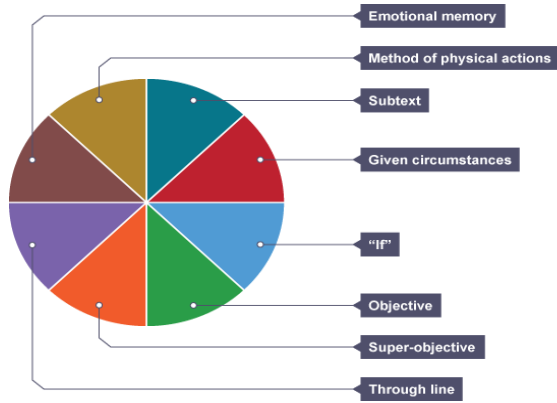
Subtext

Given Circumstances

Magic If

Stanislovski

Use elements of 'The System' to help you develop the background of the character/s from your chosen lyrics. Try to be imaginative within your exploration.



Given Circumstances

Subtext

Magic If

The Big Picture!

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Task 3

To research the methodologies of Punchdrunk and apply theories to a design concept for a production involving your monologue / Duologue.

punchdrunk

Punchdrunk is a British theatre company, formed in 2000, by Artistic Director Felix Barrett MBE.

Since its inception, Punchdrunk has pioneered a form of "immersive" theatre in which the audience is free to choose what to watch and where to go.

Task 1

- Use the following links to listen to Felix Barrett's ideas for immersive theatre and to see examples of the work created by Punchdrunk.
- <https://youtu.be/6ktpes0qMZO> (Burn the seats: Felix Barrett The future of storytelling 6.19)
- https://youtu.be/k12NZLh_Xvg (Sleep No More Trailer)
- Answer the following questions using what you have discovered from the clips. (Give examples to support your answers where possible.)

Questions

- What does Felix Barrett aim to achieve through the work of Punchdrunk?
- What do you think an audience member would experience from a Punchdrunk performance?
- How do they use design elements to immerse their audience members?



punchdrunk



Task 2

Punchdrunk immerse their audience by producing their performances within unusual settings. Old hotels, warehouses and even underground in tunnels. Their work is characterised by interesting locations and hyper-real sets.

- You need to imagine you are producing your monologue / duologue inspired by the Beyoncé songs in a **Punchdrunk style**.
- Decide upon the location of your production and the setting in which your scene would take place.
- You will need to go into detail about how the mood and atmosphere would be enhanced through lighting, sound and props.
- **You could present your ideas through a mood-board of images, annotated images or a written description of where your scene would take place. Try to justify how your ideas would work and why you have made these decisions.**

Extra: it might be interesting to consider what else is happening in different locations of your production set. Punchdrunk allow their audience to roam, what else could they see?

The Big Picture!

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Task 4

To research the methodologies of Forced Entertainment and apply the ideas from their 'Table top Shakespeare' project to your script.

FORCED ENTERTAINMENT

Forced Entertainment are an experimental theatre company based in Sheffield and founded by a man called Tim Etchells in 1984.

They develop projects using a collaborative process - devising work as a group through improvisation, experimentation and debate

Task 1

- Use the following links to research who Forced Entertainment are and what is special about their style:

www.forcedentertainment.com/about
www.forcedentertainment.com/about/howwe-work

- Complete the proforma on the next slide with your findings from your research



Task 2

- One of their most recent projects was called 'Complete works: Table Top Shakespeare'. Follow the links below to hear a review of this performance and to watch the trailer:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQGIG2rhXUE>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cf4EipblJBc>
- What inanimate objects could you use to act out your script (either a monologue or a duologue)?
- You need to rehearse a performance of your script using your objects. I think the key to success is experimenting with your voice when bringing the objects to life.
- **You must record your Table Top version of your script on your phone and save a copy to bring to your first lesson.**



FORCED ENTERTAINMENT

Who are we?

How do we work?

My opinion of Forced Entertainment as a theatre company are:

The Big Picture!

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Task 5

Reflecting upon the process and performance outcomes are essential within the study of drama and theatre.

Analysis & Evaluation



Throughout the course you will be required to analyse and evaluate both the process you undertake and the performances you create within drama.

Task:

Analyse the impact the research and application of the three theatre companies / practitioners had upon your ideas for the drama and evaluate the success of your creative ideas.

To achieve success within this final part of the project you should:

- Analyse how your ideas were shaped by your research.
- Evaluate which techniques / methods were most effective and why
- Back up points with clear examples from both research and your creative outcomes.
- Consider the different elements of performance you were forced to consider.
- Evaluate your final ideas and where improvements could be made
- Aim to write a minimum of 300 words for your reflection.

