



DRAMA
 Performing Arts
 Department

KNOWLEDGE & VOCABULARY ORGANISER

Year 8
Summer
Term

Development of
Devising techniques and
performance skills

Purpose

- To explore the planning of creative and original Drama through Devising.
- To explore Devising techniques in Drama
- To develop a stimulus into a creative idea.

Key Knowledge

To explore the key components of successful Devising in Drama

- Devising**— To plan and create an original and creative story.
- Stimulus**— A starting point to create Drama. This can be anything from a title, to a song, to an image. The point of a stimulus is to get your creativity flowing.
- Themes** - Once you have mind mapped your ideas from the stimulus start to highlight any key themes which have been written down. These may include things such as love, betrayal or loss. Try to select five. These will become the backbone of your story.
- Research** — Once you have selected your five themes you will need to research them. For example if one of my themes is mental health, I would look for case studies about real people who have had issues with mental health and use some of the key moments in these case studies to bring to my development.
- Development of Ideas** —Once you have your themes and research start to discuss with group how these can be merged together and developed into a basic script.
- Script Development**— A basic script will give you structure. Once you have structure you can begin to add and remove bits as you rehearse. Keep adding more detail and expand on ideas that are working. Ideas that are not working need to be removed.
- Given Circumstances**—What are the facts of the play that you can not change? These include names of characters and what the characters are doing in each scene.
- Your imagination and creativity**— Once you have all the Given Circumstances for a character, fill in the gaps in their history with your imagination.

Further Research

Drama Online <https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/>

Key Vocabulary

Staging:

- Proscenium Arch/ End –On–** One sided audience
- Traverse**—Two sided audience
- Thrust**—Three sided audience
- Theatre in the Round**—Four sided audience
- Promenade**—Audience can move where this wish to watch scenes happening in different locations.

Drama Vocabulary

- Devising** — Creating an original piece of Drama from a stimulus.
- Episodic**— A story made up of loosely connected or self contained events.
- Flash Backs**— Jump back in time to show events before the main story.
- Flash Forward** — Jump forward in time to show events after the main story.
- Given Circumstances** — Factual information set by a playwright that cannot be changed.
- Improvisation** — Making up an original piece of drama on the spot without planning it.
- Linear**— The scenes run in a chronological order. From A to Z.
- Naturalistic** —Is a theatrical style that attempts to resemble real life on stage.
- Non-naturalistic**—Is a theatrical style that does not resemble real life on stage.
- Non-Linear**— The scenes can run in a any order. S to G to A to X.
- Research**—Is finding factual information or case studies to help bring detail to your work.
- Role**— A part played by an actor on stage.
- Role on Wall**— A technique to map out internal feelings of a character and the outside influences on a character.
- Subtext**— The underlying message in a sentence. What is really being said under the surface.
- Stimulus**— A starting point to create drama.