



DRAMA
Performing Arts
Department

KNOWLEDGE & VOCABULARY ORGANISER

Year 9
Autumn
Term

Exploration of
Drama and Theatre
Practitioners

Purpose

- To explore how to create high quality and creative Drama
- To explore what a character is and how you create an original character
- To use the rehearsal process effectively.

Key Knowledge

- What are the origins of the play Stone Cold?** Stone Cold was written by Roberts Swindells in 1993. It was adapted by Joe Standerline into a play.
- What is the picture of homelessness in UK today?** In 2023 the UK government predicted that in Autumn 2023 approximately 3898 people were sleeping on the streets in England. The organisation called Shelter predicts that in December 2023, 309000 people were homeless.
- How is lighting used to build tension and suspense on stage?** Lighting focuses on the use of colour to symbolise emotions. Red symbolise anger for example. Lighting can therefore be used to visually enhance the mood on stage which can increase tension.
- What is the McCandless System of lighting?** Created by American Stanley McCandless (1897 to 1967). Considered to be the father of lighting design. The idea is to front light actors on stage in zones.
- What are the origins of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang?** Written by Ian Fleming in 1967. Ian Fleming also wrote the James Bond characters.
- Who is Stanislavski?** (1863 to 1938) A Russian Theatre Director who created the concept of Naturalistic acting.
- What techniques does Stanislavski use in Drama?** Created a system of acting involving units, objectives, super objectives, given circumstances, emotional memory/recall and Magic If.
- What is a stereotype?** Is a popular but simplified characterisation of a person often made based on their appearance or behaviour

Further Research:

Key Vocabulary

Staging:

1. Proscenium Arch— One sided audience
2. Traverse—Two sided audience
3. Thrust—Three sided audience
4. Theatre in the Round—Four sided audience
5. Promenade—Audience can move where they wish to watch scenes happening in different locations.

Drama Vocabulary

Character Cards — A sheet with factual information about your character.

Emotional recall —Using an actor's past experiences to find the emotional truth in a scene.

Given Circumstances—The factual information listed by the playwright in a script that cannot be changed.

Homelessness — Is classified as a person not having a recognised building to sleep in so must sleep on the streets.

Magic If — Where an actor imagines themselves in a set of fictional circumstances.

McCandless Lighting System — The idea is to front light actors on stage in zones.

Narration — Where one or more performers talk directly to audience.

Objectives—What a character is trying to achieve in a scene.

Soliloquy — Where an actor talks to themselves out loud revealing their inner thoughts to an audience.

Spotlight — A powerful, narrow beam of light on an area of the stage.

Stanislavski—A Russian Theatre Director who developed the Naturalistic style of acting.

Super Objectives — What the character wants to achieve in the entire play.

Units— The building blocks that help a character to achieve their objective in a scene.