

DEVISING THEATRE

Year 9 Drama Knowledge Organiser- Term 6: Devising



What is Devised Drama?

- There is no script for this type of drama
- It is performance that you create as a group
- The whole group work together to share ideas and develop characters and scenes
- Use many different drama conventions

How to Devise in a Group

- Start with a STIMULUS- what ideas does it inspire?
- Explore a story, issue, historical event or characters that fascinate you
- Focus on the devising task. Don't allow yourself to get distracted
- 'Playing around with ideas' is great!
- Listen to others ideas- try to develop them further
- Be eager to give your ideas, but also compromise with others
- **Be your fabulous, creative self!**



What impact do you want to have on the audience?

Your piece can...

- Raise awareness about an important issue
- Inspire them to make a positive change
- Help them see someone else's perspective
- Entertain them by using comedy



Drama Conventions

- Use lots of these conventions to give style to your devised work
- Carefully consider which one suits each moment of your piece
- They all have different functions
- What are you trying to achieve with each convention?

e.g.

- A thought track gives the audience insight into a character's inner thoughts
- Split stage can emphasise contrast between two situations or moments in time



Your stimulus for devising is:

The Seven Deadly Sins

Wrath	Anger
Envy	Jealousy
Sloth	Laziness
Gluttony	Excessive eating & drinking
Lust	Desire for someone ♥
Greed	Excessive desire for wealth
Pride	Arrogance about one's own abilities

Still Image	Actors freeze in positions on stage
Thought track	Telling the audience your character's inner thoughts while the other actors freeze
Cross-cutting	Cutting forward or back in time to a different scene. E.g flashback or forward
Split stage	Two different scenes happen on stage simultaneously, cut between them
Marking the moment	emphasizing or highlighting a specific significant moment. This can be done using: exaggerated physicality, ensemble movements,
Narration	Performers speak directly to the audience to tell a story, give information or comment on the action
Physical Theatre	Convey ideas, stories, and emotions non verbally
Direct Address	Actors 'break the fourth wall' and speak to or interact with the audience
Slapstick Comedy	Exaggerated physicality & gestures, falls & collisions, absurd situations
Human Puppetry	Performers manipulating and controlling bodies to resemble puppetry
Verbatim	Using real people's words, taken from recorded interviews
Transitions	The ways in which actors move between still images or scenes
Silent Movie	No spoken dialogue, exaggerated acting, title cards, stock characters: villain, hero, damsel in distress

10	An outstanding devised performance. Highly competent, highly developed and sustained use of acting skills and drama conventions. Highly inventive work throughout. Outstanding contribution to the effectiveness of the piece.
8-9	An outstanding devised performance. Developed, secure and consistent use of acting skills and drama conventions. Some useful and inventive ideas. Considerable contribution to the effectiveness of the piece.
6-7	Some developing use of acting skills and drama conventions. Some useful ideas. Some meaningful contribution to the effectiveness of the piece.
3-5	A basic use of acting skills and drama conventions. An attempt to contribute to the effectiveness of the piece.