

Year 9 Autumn Term 1 – Drama Knowledge Organiser

Expectations and content - What is this unit about and why do we teach it?

Unit 1: Blood Brothers – Set Play

This unit of work introduces students to the Set Play for GCSE Drama, which is studied for Component 1: Understanding Drama (the written exam) throughout the duration of the course. Students will initially research the social and historical context of the play, set in a working-class community in Liverpool between the 1970s and 1980s, relating their knowledge and understanding to tasks associated with costume, set and prop design. As a class, we will read the whole play whilst beginning to explore the key characters, their characteristics in more depth and using a range of acting skills to bring key extracts of the script to life.

Drama skills

Vocal skills (*the way an actor communicates using their voice*)

TRIPPPP

- Tone, rhythm, intonation, pitch, pace, pause, projection.

Physical skills (*the way an actor communicates using their body*)

BOMBS

- Body language, gesture, movement, blocking, spatial relationships.

FACE

- Facial expression, accent, configuration, eye contact.



If your child needs support

Suggested activities to help:

- Re-read key scenes from the play, you could practice these together taking on roles.
- Watch a live/filmed version of the play “Blood Brothers.”
- Create a factfile for each character including key scenes and their involvement in the play.
- Create a diagram of the stage area and label the stage directions or entrances and exits of the characters in a scene.
- Complete home learning tasks set.

Knowledge and understanding

- Genre
- Sub-text
- Character motivation and interaction
- Dramatic climax
- Stage configuration and stage directions
- Design of set, props, costume, lighting and sound
- Performer’s vocal and physical interpretation of character
- The social, cultural and historical context in which the performance text studied is set.

If your child needs extension

Challenging activities to complete:

- Create a role on the wall for each character.
- Write a monologue for a chosen character.
- Design a setting for the play or costumes for a chosen character.

Suggested further reading or research:

- Research the social/historical context of the play “Blood Brothers.” (Liverpool, 1970s – 1980s)
- Scan the QR code to visit the BBC Bitesize revision page for “Blood Brothers.”

