

St Mary Redcliffe and Temple 6th Form



Year 11 into 12 transition task

Subject: Drama

SMRT 6th Form takes students from a wide range of schools, who have studied a variety of GCSE syllabuses. We want to ensure that everybody is equally able to access the content of the A Level and so the following tasks give you a chance to ensure you are fully prepared.

At SMRT we have used the AQA syllabus at GCSE. This is accessible from the exam board website, but we don't expect you to have looked at it.

To ensure you are ready to fully access the A Level Syllabus you should attempt these tasks:

Task A - Essential

Read Much Ado About Nothing by Shakespeare. Please try to buy a cheap copy or there are many online versions. You will need to make notes on characters and how each character should be played.

There are many performances online to watch. Be careful – some are good and some are terrible.

Task B - Essential

Find a play and learn a monologue from it (use GCSE text if needs be)

Consider – Age & Gender

Emotional journey

Context of the character's own personal story within the text.

- You will be performing the monologue to the class within the first week in September.
- You should perform the monologue as if it is happening within a performance of the Play.
- You should read the play in its entirety. Why do you think you need to do this?
- It should be no shorter than 2 minutes in length.
- You are permitted to edit the text, as long as it still makes sense to the text and the character. E.g. too long or a line from other characters can be removed.
- You do not have to do an accent.
- Be brave! Challenge yourself.
- Do not leave it until the last minute.
- Record yourself doing it.
- Do it in front of a mirror.

Task C - Desirable

Watch all the free theatre you can. There are loads of theatres and companies streaming live theatre from Hampstead Theatre to the National Theatre. Some West End and Broadway shows are streaming and as one of your set texts will be Much Ado About Nothing, I would definitely suggest watching some that The Globe are doing.

Don't give up on something in the first Act. I went to see Frantic Assembly's 'I think we are alone' and the first Act was dull, but Act 2 was great and brought it all together! I could give you all the links for these but a part of A level and FE is doing work more independently, so take time to find them.

Task D - Challenge

Wider research – look in to the links between Theatre and Politics. This could be how the political views of particular writers or practitioners affect their work, or how particular plays or movements express political views, or even about types of theatre which emerged in particular political contexts. Create a mind map, research collage or something interesting in response!!

To get more into what this subject is about at a higher level :

RESEARCH BERTOLT BRECHT, fantastic book called Complete Brecht Toolkit

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Complete-Brecht-Toolkit-Stephen-Unwin-ebook/dp/B00IWUBA04/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=Brecht%27s+toolkit&qid=1585661914&sr=8-1

You could get a copy of this, and have a good read, but there is lots on the internet about him. You could create a collage of info about him, or just some traditional notes. You will have a 1000 word essay at Christmas in which he will play a big part.

These YouTube videos are really interesting –

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wCyvfScSuBE>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-828KqtTkA>