Year 8 Unit 4 Overview: Modern Drama

Completion date: March 2022

Target grade for tests:

You will learn how to:

- develop a personal interpretation of characters, relationships and themes linking to specific textual reference
- explain and comment on themes, characters, ideas and style across a whole text and in an extract
- explain how playwrights craft their plays using staging, language and structure.
- show an awareness of culture and society and explain links to the text

An expert in English is:

Inquisitive and perceptive, an appreciative reader, who enjoys reading and responding analytically to a wide range of texts.

Confident and creative, a compelling writer, able to adapt their style to suit a range of audiences, forms and purposes.

Engaging and thoughtful, a fluent communicator, confident to articulate their own opinions and responds to others with sensitivity and skill.

Unit Overview

During this unit, you will focus on developing the following skills:

- writing clear focused analytical paragraphs concentrating on character and theme
- supporting your points with quotes and examples from the script
- analysing an extract
- analysing and evaluating the effect of author's choices (staging, language and structure)
- use a variety of subject terms
- develop the detail and quality of your analysis of a play from the work you did in Year 7
- linking your personal interpretation to a specific question

Yellow Key Words: Subject terminology:

<u>dramatic irony –</u> when the audience know what the characters don't

<u>stage directions</u> – anything other than character lines <u>lighting</u> – lighting styles used in performance

setting – where the play is set

staging - how the stage appears

<u>costumes</u> - what the characters wear

playwright - who wrote the play

foreshadowing – hinting at future events in the play

<u>denouement</u> - key moment in the play

structure - methods used by the writer

<u>language</u> – methods used by the writer

<u>methods</u> – another word for techniques or devices

purpose - why the writer has written or done something

<u>audience</u> - the people watching the play

Suggested reading or support available:

- BBC Bitesize
- Online articles about the playwright and what has influenced their work
- Reviews on performances of the play

Purple Key words: Ambitious vocabulary

Group 1 Group 2 Group 3

accent riot harsh context dialect curse

Liverpool

education

unemployment

poverty

liberal

society
analysis
performance
interaction
protagonist
connotations

connotations philosophy interpretation epiphany colloquialism disciplinarian

humiliate desperate ministry ambition responsible mercilessly progeny irrelevance

iPad opportunities:

- iPads to research the background of the dramatist/playwright being studied.
- IMovie to make trailers

Book Creator (comic strips and advertising posters)

Cross curricular:

SMSC: learn about social issues that affect society Literacy: reading for meaning, accurate spellings and developing use of embedded quotations Numeracy: researching economic statistics.