

A Level Drama and Theatre Studies

Part A - Bridging Work Task

This is a fantastic opportunity to expand your understanding of A Level Drama and Theatre Studies as you prepare for enrolment and start at Franklin in September.

Please complete the work and bring a copy to your enrolment, either printed or electronically.

The work will take you around **4 hours** so plan your time to best suit you.

How do I complete and submit my task?	<p>Complete task 1 on paper and bring a copy to your enrolment appointment, also take this to your first lesson in September.</p> <p>If you did not attend the Taster Day don't worry – this isn't essential for completing this work but, please ensure that you have completed this bridging work.</p> <p>Task 2 will be performed in the first week at college.</p>
Introduction to your Bridging Task	<p>These tasks are designed to help us to make sure that this course is the right choice for you. Here you will develop your research and analysis skills and perform a monologue to show us how great a performer you are! Please do not worry about monologue, this is just an opportunity for us to see you perform.</p>
Task details	<p>For this task, you will focus on Stanislavski's theatre practice. You will investigate <i>acting techniques</i> that Stanislavski developed as part of his System.</p> <p>Task 1 - Stanislavski Research</p> <p>Your task is to research and create a report on Stanislavski. You should find out about his <i>rehearsal techniques and approaches to characterisation</i> in preparation for your study at Franklin. As part of this report, you must also explain what Realism is and how this is different to other acting styles. Your report should include three sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● A short biographical account of Stanislavski● A description of <i>three</i> rehearsal or character development techniques● A description of Realism (theatre) <p>Please <i>do not copy and paste</i> your work, rather you should <i>paraphrase</i> the research and include any web-links that you have used in your document.</p> <p>Task 2 - Monologue Performance</p> <p>Prepare a 1-minute monologue of your choice <i>ready to perform in the first week of the course</i>. The monologue can be from any play (not film), and can be any genre including classical, comedy, tragedy or have a physical/stylised</p>

	<p>component. As part of your rehearsal process you may wish to explore some of Stanislavski's rehearsal techniques.</p> <p>You may want to consider scripts from the following playwrights: Steven Berkoff, Harold Pinter, Jim Cartwright, Duncan Macmillan, Laura Wade, Shakespeare, John Godber, Jack Thorne. Try to find a monologue that demonstrates the type of theatre that you're mostly interested in and showcases your strengths.</p> <p>You should understand the monologue in context of the rest of the play and be able to discuss the full text.</p> <p>Task 3: Monologue written exploration: Write 250 words to support your monologue performance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is happening to your character(s) in the extract? • How does the key extract relate to the context of the whole play? • What are your character's objectives/motivations/feelings? • How are you interpreting this character in your performance? (ie; tone, projection, pace, stillness, facial expression, physicality-gait, emphasis etc)
<p>Resources to help you with the Bridging Task</p>	<p>You could purchase a second-hand play on Amazon for a relatively affordable price or perhaps ask your teacher/librarian/friends at school if they know of any suitable monologues.</p> <p>Youtube is great for finding monologues suitable for auditions.</p> <p>Digital Theatre and National Theatre are fantastic resources to watch live theatre on, which we will do regularly throughout the course. These do come with a fee; however, this could be shared between you and some friends who may also be taking Drama as a subject.</p> <p>If you have any questions, or need help finding a monologue, please feel free to contact me via email at: alison.traill@franklin.ac.uk</p>
<p>Extension Tasks</p>	
<p>Extension Tasks to stretch and challenge you</p>	<p>If you have completed the above to the best of your ability, feel free to try this extension task (<i>this is optional</i>).</p> <p>Theatre Report</p> <p>Watch a piece of theatre either live or online and write a report on what you have seen. You may wish to write in a journalistic style, for example writing as if you were writing for The Stage newspaper. You could comment on: The staging, the costumes, use of facial expression, character development, actors' style and interpretation of the role, your overall enjoyment of the piece.</p>

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Part B – Preparing for Studying at Franklin

A fantastic opportunity to widen your understanding of the course.

Examining Board and Specification	<p>This course follows Pearson Edexcel A Level Drama and Theatre Studies specification.</p> <p>We cover the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Devised Theatre Process and Performance• Monologue Performance• Group Performance• Live Theatre Review• Study of two texts- Analysis and interpreting performance text. <p>Studying this course will give you a wide range of skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research• Group collaboration• Improvisation• Performance Skills: Use of gesture, mannerism, control, vocal projection, tone, use of pause, timing, articulation.• Analysis and Evaluation• Creative interpretation• Communication <p>Progression after this course:</p> <p>Many of our Drama and Theatre Studies students have progressed on to study Drama at University and prestigious Drama Schools across the country. This being a creative A Level also lends itself exceptionally well to subjects such as English, TV and Film, Creative Writing, Directing, Tech and Lighting Design, Community Theatre and Events Management.</p>
Preparing for the course	<p>To prepare for this course it would be recommended to watch as much live/recorded theatre as possible. You can subscribe to Digital Theatre Online or National Theatre to extend your performance vocabulary.</p>

It may be useful to join a local theatre company to expand your performance skills and develop your experience and confidence on stage.

It would also be advisable to get into the habit of reading. Creative healthy reading habits around the subject will support an academic style of writing. Essays on theatre practice, theatre reviews and any scripts would be advised to broaden your knowledge of the theatre world.