

# "After School Clubs to Increase Motivation and Prevent Dropout" No. 2018-1-PL01-KA229-050748

ERASMUS +



# Introduction to Drama Club

Drama Club  
Methodology



# What is drama?



The word drama comes from the Greek word for “action.” **Drama** is written to be performed by actors and watched by an audience.



# DRAMA

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graph TD; A[DRAMA] --> B[Consists of two types of writing]; A --> C[Can be presented in two ways]; B --> D[The dialogue that the characters speak]; B --> E[The stage directions that tell the actors how to move and speak, describing the sets and props]; C --> F[As literature, the text of the play itself]; C --> G[As performance, the production of the play in a theater];
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# Two Types of Drama

## 1. Tragedy

- shows the downfall or death of a *tragic hero*, or main character. In ancient Greek plays, the hero was a good person brought down by a *tragic flaw*, or defect in character. In a modern plays, the hero can be an normal person destroyed by an evil in society.
- emphasizes human greatness.

## 2. Comedy

- often shows a conflict between opposite age groups , genders, or personality types.
- typical comedies involve confusion, jokes, and a happy ending.
- stresses human weaknesses.



**A drama or play is a form of storytelling in which actors make the characters come alive through speech (dialogue) and action (stage directions).**



- Every performance of a play is different, even if the same actors perform the same play many times.
- Performances are influenced by the audience. To be a part of an audience is different than reading a play alone. The response of the audience will also affect our own response. For example, we laugh louder when the rest of the audience is laughing, too.



# How is a play written?

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- The author of a play is called a *playwright*. Everything a playwright writes must appear onstage.
- A play in written form is called a *script*.
- The playwright must write the *dialogue*, or what the characters say to each other in conversation, as well as the *stage directions*, which tells how the play is to be performed.

# Dialogue

- Dialogue is what the characters say, and it is used to reveal their personalities = Character Traits.
- The name of the character who is to speak is listed usually in bold at the start of a line, followed by a colon.
- Every time the speaker changes, a new line is started.  
**Dialogue is necessary in order to develop conflict and advance the plot.**





# Staging a play

- Drama is more than just the words on a page. The production of a play involves directing the way the characters move, what they wear, the lighting, and the scenery.
- **Staging** is the practice of putting on the play. Some of the details of staging may be included in the stage directions, however, the director and the producer take what the playwright has described and bring it to life with their own ideas.

# Sets

- Sets are the scenery, backdrops, and furniture that create the setting.
- A production may have different sets for different scenes. For example, some scenes may take place outside in the street, while others may take place in a character's living room. Some scenes may take place during the day, while others may take place at night.



# Props



- Props are things like books, telephones, dishes, and other items that actors use onstage during the performance to support the action.



## Stage directions

- Stage directions are notes in the script *usually written in italics and enclosed in parentheses or brackets*. They usually describe where and when a scene takes place (setting), how the characters should say their lines, and how the characters should move onstage. They may explain the character's mood or how the character is feeling.
  - Stage directions may also describe sets, costumes, props, lighting, and sound effects.
  - Stage directions use certain terms to describe the stage. Look at the following slide and see how.

# Take a look at a script and MARK THE TEXT!

- Preview text features.
- Read aloud the dialogue, using stage directions to understand the characters' attitudes, emotions, and personalities.
- Read stage directions and imagine how the scene should be enacted.
- Mark the Text!

# Audience

| Downstage Left | Downstage Center | Downstage Right |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Stage Left     | Center Stage     | Stage Right     |
| Upstage Left   | Upstage Center   | Upstage Right   |

# Dramatization



- A *dramatization* is a play that was once a novel, short story, folk tale, biography, or other type of writing. Some plays are completely new works. Other plays are *adapted* from novels, short stories, or even from nonfiction. A playwright takes scenes, characters, and action from an existing work and turns them into a play, or dramatizes them.



# How is a play divided?



- A play is largely divided up into parts, or acts. The number of acts in a production can range from one to five, depending on how a writer structures the outline of the story. The length of time for an act to be performed can range from 30 to 90 minutes.
- Acts may be further divided into scenes; in classical theatre each regrouping between entrances and exits of actors is a scene, while today it describes a quick change of setting.





# Remember-People Produce Plays

- The actors and actresses who **perform the play** are known as the ***cast***.
- The people who build sets, manage lighting, or work backstage are called the ***crew***.



# Theater Etiquette

- All of the people involved in the production, both cast and crew, work very hard to be sure they give a great performance.
- It is the job of the audience members to help the performers give their best performance possible. The audience can do this by practicing the rules of *theater etiquette*, which is **how the audience should behave when watching a play.**



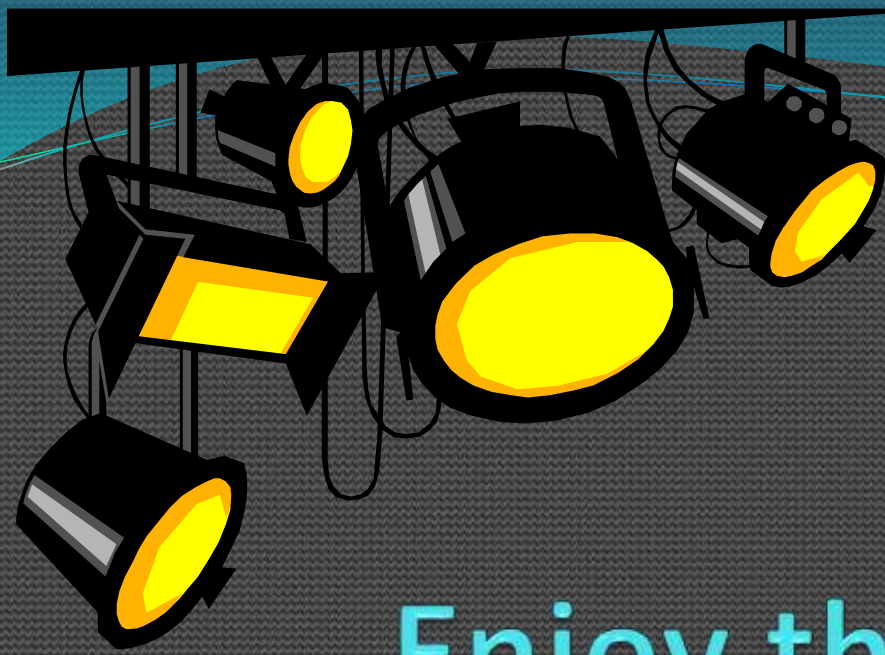
# Rules of Theater Etiquette

- Be on time to the theater. Turn off cell phones upon arrival.
- Be quiet so others around you can hear the performance.
- You should use the restroom before the show begins, and not get out of your seat while the show is being performed.
- You should not eat, chew gum, or drink any beverages while watching the show.
- While it is appropriate to respond to funny, shocking, or entertaining moments out loud, you should respect others around you and their enjoyment of the play by not responding with loud, inappropriate reactions.

# When Should You Applaud?

- Stand and applaud if you really thought the show was great. That is called a *standing ovation*, and it honors the actors who worked so hard to give a great performance.
- It is customary to applaud at the end of songs, and at the *curtain call*, when the actors come out to take their final bows. Throughout the show, audience members may choose to applaud when something particularly outstanding has just been performed. Do not whistle or scream out to the performers except for a Bravo.





# Enjoy the Show!

(Whether you are reading drama or watching a performance)

