

YEAR 7 KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER- BASICS OF DRAMA

New terminology:

Still image – A frozen picture that shows a feeling or an action.

Stimulus – A starting point to develop your ideas from. It could be an object, a picture, words/lyrics.

Narration – When a narrator tells the story as the actors act it out.

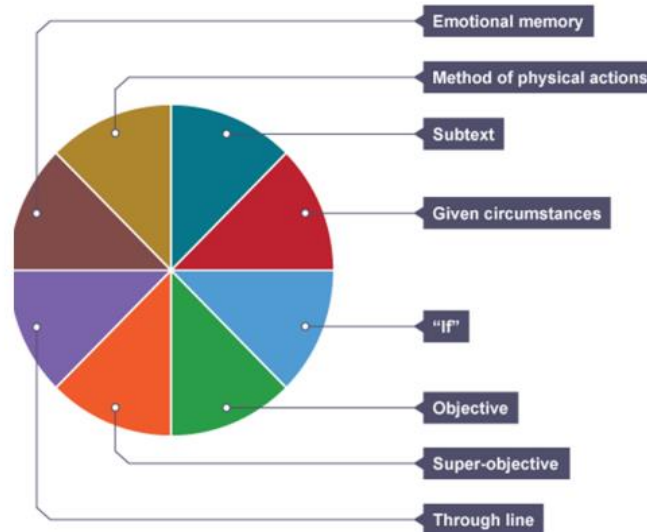
Hot seating – Answering questions as a character.

Marking the moment – marking a important moment stand out in a scene

Stanislavski's techniques

The System

This term refers to the methods used by Stanislavski to foster a good performance in his actors. It focuses mainly on helping an actor recall the emotions needed for a role. Don't confuse 'method acting' with the System. Method acting is how Stanislavski's work was interpreted by others, in particular, actors and directors in the film industry.



Who was Brecht and why was he important?

- Bertolt Brecht was a German writer during World War II
- He was a Marxist- this means he was **against** the Nazi government
- He was a commentator on society and the political climate at the time
- His work challenged the audience to think and showed them that they could affect change.



Brechtian Style

Alienation Effect

This forces the audience to think about the situation played out in front of them and make judgements on it. This device included music, dance, placards, direct address, third person monologues, mechanics of theatre on display to the audience.

Epic Theatre

Brecht's plays were often known as 'Epic Theatre'. These were stories that were told in any sequence. Each scene would be a stand-alone piece and they could happen in any order.

Actors

A Brechtian actor would **represent** the character rather than become them. They could do this through use of caricature, over-exaggerated expressions, voice and action.

Background Information

Pantomimes are mostly performed at Christmas time.

Pantomime's are based on fairy tales and nursery stories.

Pantomime is a type of musical comedy designed for families. Modern pantomimes include songs, gags, slapstick comedy and dancing.

Pantomime stock characters include: the Evil Villain, the Damsel in Distress, the Hero, The Principle Boy (a male character played by a female), and the Pantomime Dame (a female character played by a male).