

Keywords:

GCSE Drama

Topic Title: GCSE Drama

Introduction to the topic:

During your GCSE Drama lessons you will be writing about the ways in which actors use their vocal and physical skills in order to demonstrate that you understand why actors make those choices on stage. The vocal and physical skills listed below are essential key words needed in order to access the theory content of the GCSE.

What lessons will you cover during the topic? During your Drama lessons you will be exploring devising, script work and also watching live theatre.

Keyword	Definition
Tone	Must have an emotion before it <i>Angry tone</i>
Pace	The speed at which you speak <i>Fast/Slow</i>
Pitch	The quality of your speech, usually to suggest your age, gender or mood <i>High/Low</i>
Volume	This one is very self explanatory... <i>Loud/Quiet</i>
Emphasis	Used to stress a word, however you must always say where and how you say it <i>Emphasise the word "and" by raising my volume</i>
Pause	The length in-between words <i>Short/Long</i>
Accent	Must be a location or specific dialect <i>Irish/Australian/Welsh</i>
Posture	The way in which you hold yourself <i>Hunched/Upright</i>
Gesture	A specific movement <i>Folding arms/Turning Head/Thumbs up</i>

Level	Where your body is positioned, for instance are you on a low level sitting down on the floor? <i>High/Low</i>
Facial Expression	Specific description + emotion I raised my eyebrows and upturned the side of my mouth to create a smirk suggesting I was feeling smug.
Gait	The way in which you walk... <i>Wide/Narrow/Casual/Limping/Stomping/Waddling</i>
Body Language	This can be open or closed but you must accompany your description of body language with a gesture <i>Closed body language by folding my arms across my chest</i>
Devising	To create original theatre, using research and collaborative working to form your piece
Improvisation	To create a scene 'on the spot'. This can test your ability to think quickly and creatively.
Stage directions	Actions in a script you should follow when acting out the script.
Physical Theatre	When you use your bodies to create movement that represents a location or atmosphere.
Set design	The scenery and props on stage, helping to create a location or atmosphere.
Lighting design	The lighting on stage, helping to create a location or atmosphere.
Costume design	The clothing, accessories and makeup the actor would wear when playing a character.
Contemporary Epic Theatre	This is the style of Noughts and Crosses. Some conventions of this style include: an episodic structure, symbolic design features, multi-functional props and set, multirole.
Dystopia	An imagined state or society in which there is great suffering or injustice. Noughts and Crosses is set in a dystopian society.