

Glossary – Key Words

General Key words		Physical Skills	
Stimulus	Inspiration or Idea.	Facial Expressions	Use of the face to show mood, feeling or character.
Naturalism	Naturalistic scenes to represent the idea of real life on stage – the characters are believable.	Body Language	Non-verbal communication using the body to show character/emotion.
Non-naturalistic	Using dramatic techniques which are non-naturalistic in a scene.	Levels	The height a character is at (low or high) – can be used to show status
Stage Directions	Centre stage, upstage, downstage, stage left, stage right	Space	Proxemics/Direction Proxemics – the space between characters to show a relationship. Direction – Space in which the character stands/moves.
Characterisation	Use of physical and vocal skills to accurately portray and maintain a role..	Posture	How the body is held to show character or emotion
Context	Understanding when and where the play was written and when and where it is set including the social, cultural and historical contexts.	Gesture	An action of the body
Devising	Creating a performance.	Vocal Skills	
Page to Stage	Process of bringing the play from a script to the stage.	Pitch	High or low use of voice.
Dramatic Techniques		Pace	Speed when delivering dialogue
Still Image	A frozen picture/freeze frame which communicates meaning.	Tone	How the voice conveys emotion
Thought Track	When a character steps out of a scene to address the audience about how they're feeling.	Volume	How loud or soft the dialogue is delivered
Conscience Alley	The group takes on 2 contrasting viewpoints to provide a tunnel of thoughts for the character travelling through to help solve a dilemma/problem	Clarity	The way the words are pronounced.
Marking the Moment	Highlighting a key moment in a scene using other non-naturalistic techniques (e.g. slow motion/thought track)	Accent	Shows where the character is from
Improvisation	Work that is made up as you go along.	IDEA	
Flashback	Used to interrupt the present storyline for a brief return to past events.	Identify	Identify a skill/technique
Slow Motion	Slowing down the action to highlight a key moment	Describe	Describe an example of how the skill/technique is used.
Hot Seating	A character is questioned whilst in role.	Explain	Explain how this is used effectively in the scene.
Soundscape	Create sounds as a group to mimic a real or imaginary environment	Analyse	Analyse the impact of this on the scene and the audience.
Body as Prop	Using the body to physically represent a prop.		
Dramatic Irony	Dramatic irony occurs when the audience knows something that the characters don't.		
Physical Theatre	A form of theatre which emphasises the use of physical movement, (e.g. mime) for expression or representation		
Forum Theatre	Stopping and changing something about a scene whilst it is being rehearsed/performed.		