



## DRAMA – YEAR 7 KEY WORDS

1. **Still Image** – Used to highlight a key moment in a scene or the end of a scene. Everyone in the scene must hold their position, be still and silent.
2. **Animate** – To bring life to your work. To give movement to your character and scene.
3. **Performance** – To entertain an audience by doing something such as acting, singing or dancing.
4. **Mime** – Involves acting without words. It is usually a silent drama with a heavy reliance on the actor's use of gesture and facial expression. The story is conveyed via body movement and simple props.
5. **Scene** – Is a way of dividing up a story. A scene is part of a play/film in which the action stays in one place for a continuous period of time.
6. **Audience** – The people who watch the performance.
7. **Improvisation** – When you make the scene up as it is running rather than reading a script. It involves the actors reacting in the moment which influences their next dialogue and movements.
8. **Actor** – A performer who assumes the role of a character in a play, film or television show; a female actor may also be called an actress. They pretend to be someone or something they are not.
9. **Storytelling** – Where the actors tell the story to the audience. The writers ensure the dialogue portrays the story fully so the audience can understand what is being told to them.
10. **Scenario** – An outline or synopsis of a play. It gives more indication as to what happens in each scene, with each character and in each situation.
11. **Script** – A document that comprises of setting, characters, dialogue and stage directions.
12. **Narrator** – A technique where one or more performers speak directly to the audience to tell a story, give information or comment on the action in the scene.
13. **Rehearse** – To practice something in private in order to prepare before performing to an audience.
14. **Character** – A person acting as someone else in a story. Characters perform the actions and speak dialogue, moving the story along a plot line.
15. **Dialogue** – The words spoken by an actor. It is a conversation between 2 or more people.
16. **Levels** – Different heights of the actors. They are to create visual interest but can also signal status and character relationships.
17. **Proxemics** – Use of space between the actors and how that use of space communicates the relationship of the characters to the audience.
18. **Facial Expression** – The way the face moves to convey an emotional state.
19. **Body Language** – A physical act which an actor uses in order to portray a character. It includes posture and stance and can convey a characters' feelings or personality.
20. **Characterisation** – The way writers create characters and make them believable. The term 'character development' is often used.
21. **Projection** – A technique that is used to extend something outwards. In Drama you project your voice so you extend your voice outward beyond you so you are louder and clearer to those listening.
22. **Costume** – What the actors wear onstage.
23. **Thought Tracking** – A technique where a character speaks their thoughts or feelings aloud whilst the rest of the scene momentarily freezes.
24. **Hot-Seating** – An exercise used by actors to deepen their understanding of their character. An actor sits in the hot-seat and is questioned whilst staying in role as their character.
25. **Cross Cutting** – A technique where two scenes or more scenes are performed at the same time on the same stage.