



Woolwich Polytechnic
Sixth Form

DRAMA

Home Learning Pack Challenges

Please find attached a pack of work to help prepare you for Sixth Form.

I am delighted that you have shown an interest in Drama and Theatre Studies. In order to get you thinking about the subject, I have drawn up a **challenge pack** to help you prepare for studies in the 6th form such as Drama based activities, books to read, films to watch on a rainy afternoon, useful websites to browse when Snapchat, Instagram gets dull.

For a look at the syllabus:

- EDUQAS website (www.eduqas.co.uk) and then choose Drama from the dropdown.

Useful websites/apps- register now:

- www.dramaresource.com – has loads of information on Drama Apps that you can download
- National Theatre Live on Youtube – see award winning plays for free!

Please email me swaine@woolwichpoly.co.uk if you have any queries or questions.

In the meantime, I want to say a big thank you for your hard work and I am so very sorry you have lost your opportunity to complete the exams. During these unprecedented times it's important to keep going and know we will be back to normal soon.

Kind regards

Ms S. Waine
Head of Drama

Woolwich Polytechnic Sixth Form

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2. Reading

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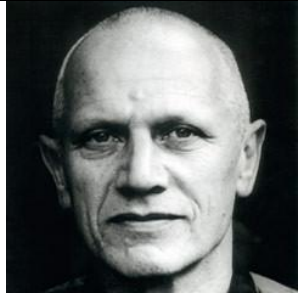



3. Films

4. Revision Notes

Home Activities

Theatre Practitioners

Research these dramatic icons

			
Konstantin Stanislavski	Antonin Artaud	Bertolt Brecht	Steven Berkoff
			
Kneehigh Theatre	Frantic Assembly	DV8 Physical Theatre	Headlong Theatre
			
Edward Bond	Sophie Treadwell	Roy Williams	Debbie Tucker-Green

Research these different practitioners/companies/playwrights and find out the following: -

1. What have they done?
2. How did they change theatre?
3. What was the initial response from the public towards them?
4. How would we characterize their work? E.g. Brecht is well known for political theatre.

Monologue Practice

Go online and find yourself a monologue. It can be about anything!

Practice in the mirror (I find this helps) and then record a version of your monologue that can be emailed later for me to mark.

When thinking about the performance of your monologue you should consider;

Vocal skills (pace, pitch, tone, volume, accent)

Physical skills (body language, facial expressions, levels)

What you want your audience to get from it – what are you trying to tell me or make me feel as your audience?

Use the following website for monologue ideas if google doesn't suggest anything:

www.dramaonlinelibrary.com

Username: 0Ni!9As'

Password: 1Jg&3Tg+

Write your own script

Part of the A Level course is creating a re-interpretation of a script. This means you will take a well-known script and change it to mean something completely different and it will have to be in the style of a practitioner. For example, we had a group last year take *Waiting for Godot* which is about two men on a bench and turned it into a piece about

social media. You can add as many of your own lines as you like. You will have to submit a version of your finished script to the examiner.

Your task is to take the below section of script and use the lines to create your own script. You don't have to use all of them and remember you can add as many of your own lines as you like!

Eliot What is it? What happened?

Maggie I saw –

Eliot What?

Maggie A mouse.

Eliot Is that it? Is that all?

Maggie Well, it could have been a rat.

Eliot I thought someone had broken in or –

Maggie I swear it looked at me.

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Eliot Shut up.

Maggie Right at me with its beady little eyes. Ugh.

Eliot Don't be such a girl.

Maggie I am a girl.

Eliot Technically.

Maggie What do you mean, 'technically'? That I'm pretending? For a laugh?

Eliot No, just –

Maggie 'Cause let me tell you, it's not a laugh. Being a girl is a mission.

Eliot I'm going back to bed.

Maggie There's a rat, Eliot.

Eliot I thought it was a mouse.

Maggie Does it matter? Do something.

Eliot Like what?

Maggie I don't know. Get rid of it. Please.

Eliot Maggie, I can't even see it.

Maggie You haven't looked.

Eliot I'm looking now.

Maggie Properly, Ellie.

Eliot Fine. I'll look 'properly'.

What to expect from a Drama written exam

The below is an example of a Drama exam paper. In Year 12 you will complete the paper in 1h30mins based on **ONE TEXT**. In Year 13, you will complete the paper in 2h30mins based on **THREE TEXTS**. Have a look at the example questions and make notes around the questions about what you think the examiner is looking for in an answer e.g. vocal skills?

4. **Machinal** Sophie Treadwell

Read Episode 9, **page 80** (YOUNG WOMAN: 'Life has been hell to me, Father!') to the end of the play on **page 83**.

- (a) Briefly describe the atmosphere in this extract and then explain how you can create this atmosphere in performance. [15]

In your answer refer to:

- location/context/action
- character positioning
- costume, make-up, lighting and sound.

- (b) Discuss the challenges facing an actor performing the part of **Young Woman** in this extract and explain how the role can be realised in performance. [25]

In your answer refer to:

- character motivation and subtext
- vocal skills, including conveying meaning through language
- movement and interaction.

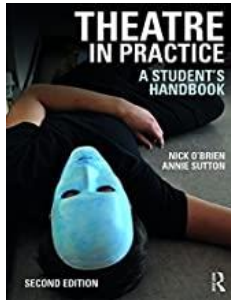
- (c) Explain how you would stage a production of **Machinal**. In your answer, analyse and evaluate how any live productions you have seen as part of the course influence your decisions. [40]

Illustrate your ideas for staging **Machinal** by referring to its:

- stage design for the opening
- original performance conditions.

READING

The following are recommended for reading prior and during A Level Drama and Theatre Studies.



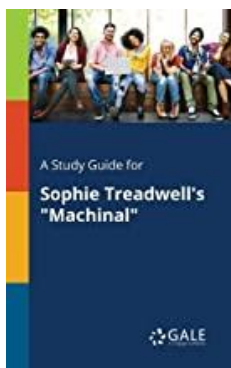
[Nick O'Brien](#) and [Annie Sutton](#) | 20 Aug 2018

Theatre in Practice: A Student's Handbook



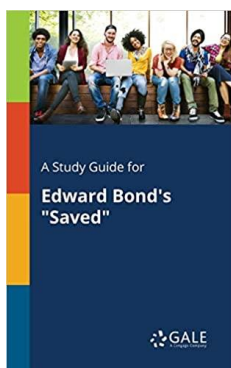
The Drama, Theatre and Performance Companion (Palgrave Student Companions Series)

by [Michael Mangan](#) | 14 May 2013



A Study Guide for Sophie Treadwell's "Machinal"

by Cengage Learning Gale | 25 Jul 2017



A Study Guide for Edward Bond's "Saved" Paperback – 25 July 2017

by [Cengage Learning Gale](#) (Author)

Recommended websites/apps/newspapers

THE STAGE

The Stage – A newspaper solely dedicated to theatre and the theatre world. Has insight from technicians, directors and actors. A great weekly read! Can be read online or a paper copy is available in some shops.

The Guardian

The Guardian – again can be read online or a paper copy. Has a great Arts section.



Line Learner App - £3.99

Easy and effective way to help you learn your lines!



www.dramaonlinelibrary.com

See above for username and password.

Has pretty much every play ever on there that you can read for free. It now has lots of free performances you can watch too!

FILMS – this is an easy one! Watch any film, good or bad, and you are watching Drama!

Revision Notes

Design skills include:

- Interpretation of text
- Design techniques and changes or variations in the use of them such as:

Lighting design

- intensity
- focus
- angle
- special effects
- colour
- gobos
- types of lantern

Sound design

- music
- sound effects
- live and recorded sounds
- volume
- reverb/echo

Set design (including props)

- use of space
- choice of stage
- levels
- entrances
- exits
- sight lines
- props
- backdrop/cyclorama
- set dressing
- colour
- scale

Costume design (including hair and make-up)

- choice and use of materials/fabrics
- garments
- hairstyles
- wigs
- make-up
- accessories
- colour/pattern.

Performing skills include:

- identification with character
- use of voice, speech and sound
 - pitch
 - pace
 - pause
 - accent
 - volume
 - clarity
- movement, use of body in space and physical relationships
 - body gesture
 - stillness
 - fluency
 - expression
- interaction with other performers and the ability to sustain this interaction throughout the performance.