

# Exploring Drama – HT1

## Areas for Assessment

<b>Creating</b>	The ability to work within a group to create and develop performance work.
<b>Performing</b>	The ability to present a character using physical and vocal skills.
<b>Evaluating</b>	The ability to discuss the qualities of a performance using dramatic language.

## Drama Key Words

<b>Audience</b>	The spectators or listeners at a performance.
<b>Auditorium</b>	The part of the theatre or performance space where the audience sits.
<b>Stage</b>	The area in a performance space where the performers perform.
<b>Protagonist</b>	The leading character in a performance or story.
<b>Narrative</b>	The storyline of a performance.
<b>Tension</b>	The growing feeling of expectation before an important or difficult event. (The edge-of-your-seat feeling you get when you know something big is going to happen)
<b>Dramatic Climax</b>	The highest point of tension within a performance. (The point where the big thing you've been waiting to happen, actually happens!)

## Explorative Strategies

<b>Still image</b>	Performers use their bodies to create a frozen picture (like a photo) which shows emotions, relationships and narrative.
<b>Thought-tracking</b>	Speaking the inner thoughts of your character aloud to understand their feelings.
<b>Hotseating</b>	Questioning a character to discover more information about their past experiences and feelings.

## 6 Areas to Consider in a Still Image

<b>Facial Expressions</b>	What emotion are they feeling? Where are they looking?
<b>Body Language</b>	Open or closed? Does it help the audience understand their feelings and social position?
<b>Gesture</b>	What are they doing with their hands? Can it help the audience understand what is going on?
<b>Levels</b>	Are lots of different levels used? Do the levels help us understand feelings and social position?
<b>Proxemics (space)</b>	Where do the performers stand in the space? Does the distance between characters tell us anything about their relationships?
<b>Audience Awareness</b>	Are the performers positioned in places where the audience can see them fully?

## Performance Techniques

<b>Cross-cutting</b>	A technique where the stage is split to show two or more locations and the action swaps between them. When one area is active, the other is frozen in still image.
<b>Narration</b>	The process of telling a story. External narration is delivered by someone looking in on the action. Internal narration is delivered by a character in the story.
<b>Marking the moment</b>	Making a key moment in a performance stand out to the audience by obviously changing dramatic choices like the volume of the speech or the speed of the action.
<b>Voices in the Head</b>	A technique to show a character struggling with their inner thoughts or memories. One performer is the protagonist and the others play their thoughts. The technique builds to a dramatic climax.