


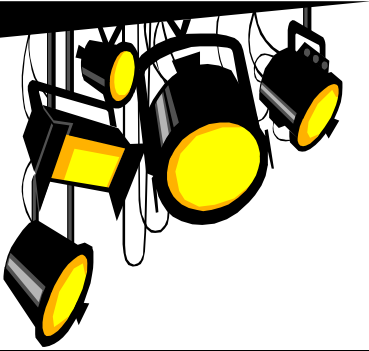

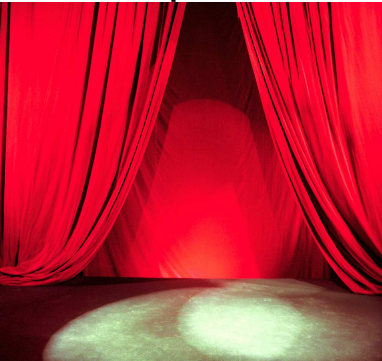



Drama Medium and Elements of Drama.

The Drama Medium refers to the different ways in which dramatic meaning is communicated to an audience. These include the use of the following;

Drama Medium	How it can be used
<p>Costume</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ This refers to the clothing and accessories worn by the characters in dramatic performance. ☛ They can add colour and glamour to enhance the mood. ☛ They can help to identify characters and roles. ☛ They can assist with the plot for example if a performer changes role. ☛ They can reflect themes or issues ☛ They can reflect a time period, they can be stylised or minimalist depending on the chosen style of performance
<p>Masks and Make up</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ A mask is a covering for the face which can cover just the eyes or the whole head ☛ It can identify a specific character or suggest a mood or emotion ☛ It can be used to disguise a character ☛ It can show events in a non-naturalistic way such as in a mime ☛ It can allow actors to take on a number of different roles ☛ They can be part of magical or mythical storytelling ☛ Make up is the cosmetic covering of the face to create character or expression ☛ It can emphasise features in a specific way ☛ It can exaggerate certain features ☛ It can be used to reflect a certain time in history
<p>Sound and Music</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ Sound and music are key elements in most dramas ☛ They create atmosphere, tone and mood ☛ They help with the plot structure by identifying changes in time or place ☛ They help the audience to understand themes, ideas or issues ☛ They help to shape our view of characters for example by showing their fear, strength or love

<p>Lighting</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is the use of artificial light to create a range of mood and effects or to direct the audience's attention - Lighting can direct attention to a particular part of the action - It can create different moods - Lighting can be used to suggest different times and places - It can be used to signal a change in the plot or action
<p>Space and Levels</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Space is the area in which the performance takes place and the area around the performers - Levels are the different heights at which performers place themselves, often to show their status - Space and levels can reflect the mood within a drama - They can be used to create interesting effects - They can be used to add meaning particularly when showing relationships between characters
<p>Set and Props</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The set is the constructed or created space in which the performance takes place - Sets can be very detailed and realistic, very simple or stylised - The set can change during a performance - The set forms part of the overall design or plan of a drama - It can convince an audience that they are in another time or location - A realistic set attempts to present what you would really see - A stylised set aims to create a specific impression of mood, location, shape, colour which enhances the director's view of the performance.
<p>Movement, Mime and Gesture</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Movement is all the physical action which happens on stage - Mime is a dramatic technique in which the actors remain silent and convey meaning through actions - Gesture is a single movement made by a part of the body such as clenching a fist or shrugging shoulders - These contribute to our understanding of the character - They can fit the mood or action of a scene - These are very powerful tools in conveying meaning

Use of Voice



- ☛ Voice refers to the various ways that the voice can be altered to convey feelings, expression and characterisation
- ☛ The use of voice can be broken down into different areas;
 - Volume-how loudly or quietly we speak
 - Pitch-whether the voice is higher or lower
 - Stress-putting weight on (stressing) certain words
 - Accent-characteristic sound of geographical areas
 - Tone-the overall quality of the voice including some of the above which can be reflect the mood or character

Spoken Language



- ☛ This is the choice of words (vocabulary) used in drama
- ☛ The choice of words can be used to convey specific ideas about the plot, characters and themes
- ☛ Spoken language chosen carefully can fit the character or drama
- ☛ Spoken language has emotive, comic or descriptive power or significance
- ☛ Meaning can be created through the careful choice of one word, one phrase or one line