

# **GCSE DRAMA Class-work – Programme of Study**

The programme of study is the work you will cover in drama lessons in preparation for your assessment sessions. The programme of study consists of the essential skills you need to succeed in the three units of the course. These are the building blocks for all the work you will do.

It is likely that you will work on several aspects of the programme of study at the same time, for example you might use still image and lighting at the same time to mark a significant moment in your work.

The programme of study is divided into 4 main areas;

- 👉 Explorative Strategies
- 👉 The Drama Medium
- 👉 The Elements of Drama
- 👉 Forms of Stimuli

## **Forms of Stimuli**

The stimuli are the various things that you can use to stimulate or create ideas for your drama.

Some examples of stimuli are;

- 👉 Poems
- 👉 Artefacts (this means objects such as photos, pictures, masks, props, costume, sculpture or any other items or objects you can think of)
- 👉 Music
- 👉 Play scripts
- 👉 Live theatre performances
- 👉 Television, film, DVD, video, internet
- 👉 Newspaper and magazine articles
- 👉 Extracts from fiction and non-fiction

When you use stimuli you will have the chance to;

- 👉 Be creative, they will allow you to think outside everyday life
- 👉 Develop ideas, you may be given fragments of stimuli that will allow you to develop a character that is suggested
- 👉 Explore meaning, any item can prompt you to ask questions about it even if it is only “who does it belong to?”
- 👉 Make connections between different stimuli to help you reflect on topics, themes and issues that may be introduced.

## **How can you use stimuli successfully?**

- ☞ Ask questions about the stimuli such as;
  - Where does it come from?
  - How would I describe it?
  - Where might it be found?
  - Does it have a story attached to it?
  - Who owns it – if anyone?
  - What could it stand for? Does it have a meaning like a wedding ring?
- ☞ Allow your ideas and those of the group to follow several paths and possibilities but be prepared to shed some of these ideas to leave a few that you can really work on
- ☞ The basis of the drama is the way in which a story is told, you need to keep this in mind at all times.

Remember, stimuli whether it be an object for Unit One or a play text for Unit Two will form the starting point for all the work you do.

The rest of this section is for you to keep all the class work you do so that you have a record of the ideas you have developed and can follow the progress of your marks as the course progresses.