

**Mortimer Community College
Drama Retrieval Booklet - Week 1**



Name: _____



Pick 'n' Mix

Year 7

RETRIEVAL

Give me 5 Physical skills:

What is the skill?

- *
- *
- *
- *
- *

How do we use it?

Match the pictures to the creative intentions:



To E



To E



To R

A

Pick 'n' Mix

Year 8

RETRIEVAL



Complete the retrieval grid below about practitioners you studied in the knife crime topic:

Overall aim: Stanislawski Naturalistic Theatre	Explain his theories	- Evaluate the impact his theories had on theatre
Overall aim: Brecht Epic Theatre	Explain his theories	Evaluate the impact his theories had on theatre
Overall aim: <u>Boal</u> Theatre of the Oppressed	Explain his theories	Evaluate the impact his theories had on theatre

Stanislavski:

Brecht

Boal

Pick 'n' Mix



RETRIEVAL

Year 10

Fill out the job roles and their responsibilities:

Job Role	Responsibilities
Actor	
Director	
Choreographer	
Playwright	
Lyricist	

Complete the themes and issues in Billy Elliot:



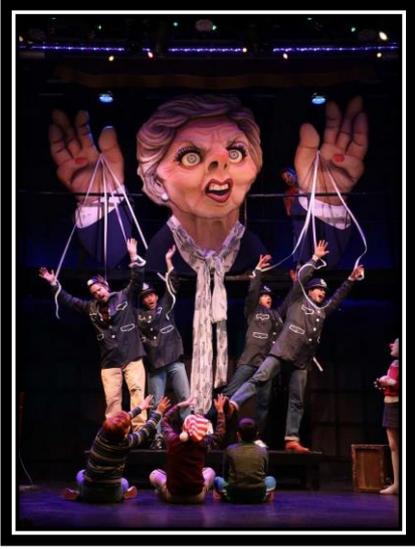
Theme/Issue:
How is this represented?



Theme/Issue:
How is this represented?



Theme/Issue:
How is this represented?



Theme/Issue:
How is this represented?



Lee Hall - Playwright

Adapting book to film and then film to stage script.

What influence did he have on Billy Elliott?



Practitioner: Elton John – Lyricist and song writer

Practitioner's approach: Musical Theatre. Adapting film to musical.

What influence did he have on Billy Elliott?

Year 7 answers:

- 1) Body language, facial expressions, gait, gesture, distance, levels, posture and mime
- 2) Body language – Non-verbal communication combining gestures, posture, facial expressions and hand gestures to portray emotions and feelings without speaking
Facial expressions – used to show emotions through the use of the face.
Gait – the way a character walks
Gesture – usually focused on hand movements
Distance – the distance created on stage to show a relationship between the characters
Levels – used to show status in the scene. Someone standing has higher status than someone sitting
Posture – the way someone stands
Mime – movement with no speech.
- 3) To Entertain, To Educate, To raise awareness.

Year 8 answers:

Stanislavski – Created theatre based upon naturalism. The naturalistic approach asks the actors to convey a believable character adapting the physical, vocal and interpretive skills to suit the role they are playing. Stanislavski wanted the audience to be entertained and to feel rehearse from their everyday lives.

Brecht – Created theatre that was educational and that used audience participation. He wanted the audience to learn from his theatre which is the opposite approach to Stanislavski. He was one of the main founders of Theatre in Education.

Boal – Boal took audience participation to the next stage. He asked the audience to choose an ending or to make a decision throughout the performance. He also believed in the educational approach.

Year 10 answers:

Job Role	Responsibilities
Actor	Actors' are responsible for arranging and attending casting calls and auditions for specific roles on time and prepared. They're also responsible for learning in-depth about their character and their relationships to develop their interpretation of the role they're playing. They also need to be willing to undertake other opportunities that may not be as appealing as others in order to gain experience.

Director	A director's responsibilities include reading scripts and understanding the performance in order to feedback to the writers on how they can interpret them. They're also responsible for selecting the best choice of actors for each role and mindfully considering the abilities of each individual. Alongside this, they also need to direct actors during filming or rehearsal and be able to make any productive changes. Director's also collaborate with other production workers such as the camera, art department and costume and exchange ideas. Primarily, they need to supervise all creative aspects of the performance and make any changes that may be critical to the quality of the performance.
Choreographer	A choreographer works closely with the director to incorporate movement into the performance. The choreographer will also be required to lead warm ups for the cast to ensure no injuries and that health and safety is followed.
Playwright	A playwright's responsibilities include working to deadlines and producing dramatic scripts. Alongside this, follow criticism accurately and add in recommended factors. Playwright's also need to have the knowledge of other plays out there.
Composer/Lyricist	A composers responsibilities include creating musical scores for the performances. A lyricist incorporates lyrics into the compositions.

- 1) Theme: Miner's Strikes. Main theme/issue for the plot of Billy Elliott. Seen throughout the entire musical following the families' struggles with the strikes and the impact it has on the community. The main song of Billy Elliott is based upon standing stronger together throughout the difficult times of the strikes. Coal used to be one of the most important parts of the British economy. By the mid-80s only 17% of the once-active coal mines in the United Kingdom were still operating. The reason behind the strike was the vast amount of mines

being closed down leaving hundreds of men unemployed. The reasons behind the strikes were to earn fair wages and get benefits, but most importantly get their jobs back.

- 2) Theme: Gender stereotypes. Gender definitions and divisions are shown in the gym where boy's box and girls attend ballet lessons. As Billy's father simply puts it 'lads do football, boxing, or wrestling – not ballet!' However, Billy wants to dance. Billy continues to attend ballet classes despite other people's opinions. *Billy Elliot* is set in the 1980s, where homosexuality was still a fragile topic to discuss. Gender stereotypes are explored throughout the musical through the incorporation of homophobic comments by family members. The film stresses that Billy is not actually gay, like his family members think. His family's judgement of his sexuality is based upon his choice of wanting to dance.
 - 3) Theme: Police used as weapons. The strike was reported as a bloody battle due to the high amount of violence by the police against the miners. When the strike was over, high fines had to be paid by the government to compensate for the violent acts.
 - 4) Theme: Margaret Thatcher – PM at the time. Their dislike to Margaret Thatcher is shown throughout the full musical and a song entitled – Dear Old Maggie Thatcher. Maggie Thatcher branded the strikers as 'the enemies within'. The feud between the government and the miners continued for a long one-year standoff.
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- 1) Lee Hall: Playwright of Billy Elliot. His influence came from his original writing of the book, film and stage adaptation of the film. He conducted the team together including Stephen Daldry, the director and Elton John, composer and lyricist.
 - 2) Elton John: Elton John, along with help from Lee Hall, created the music and lyrics for Billy Elliot. They spent time speaking on the phone creating Lyrics and Music together. Elton John had a huge influence on the creation of the musical and was thrilled when asked to assist, as he felt a strong connection to the film due to similar battles in his own life.