

YEAR 7 KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER - SPRING 1

BRITISH PLAYWRIGHTS

KEY TERMINOLOGY

1	Playwright				The person who writes the play. Famous playwrights include William Shakespeare, Oscar Wilde and Willy Russell.
2	Whoosh				A practical exercise allowing you to explore a story, theme or play by acting out the key moments.
3	Still Image				This is a frozen picture which communicates meaning. It's sometimes called a freeze frame. It can provide a snapshot of a moment with a clear focus upon use of levels, body language and facial expression.
4	Thought Tracking				When a character steps out of a scene to address the audience about how they're feeling. Sharing thoughts in this way provides deeper insight into the character.
5	Narration				Adding a spoken commentary for the audience about the action onstage. A narrator is like a storyteller informing the audience about the plot, characters and events.
6	Devising				This means to create your own performance, usually in response to a stimulus. There is no script. Instead, the actors develop the dialogue through improvisation.
7	Choral Speech				When a group of actors speak a line at the same time to create dramatic effect. This can also be called speaking in unison.
8	Blocking				Rehearsing a scene and developing the actors' movements and where they stand in relation to one another. This can be for dramatic effect and/or simply to ensure the audience can see them clearly.
9	Flexible Casting				This means that there are many different ways you can cast a production or scene. Usually this refers to the fact that gender (male or female) is not specified. For example: Kid, Teacher, Narrator, etc.
10	Transitions				Moving from one still image to another. This can be done in slow motion or with dialogue.
11	Ensemble				Actors who have not been allocated a named part but instead represent a group of people. You could also use the word chorus. Seen most often in Musical Theatre.
12	Status				How important you are, how much power you have. A King has high status and a beggar would have low status. Levels can be used to show status.

BRITISH PLAYWRIGHTS

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE	<p>Occupation: Playwright, actor and poet. Born: April 23rd, 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon. Died: April 23rd,, 1616 in Stratford-upon-Avon. Best known for: Writing plays such as Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet and Macbeth</p>
OSCAR WILDE	<p>Occupation: Playwright, poet, novelist and children's' author. Born: October 16th, 1854 in Dublin Died: 30th November, 1900 in Paris. Best known for: Writing plays such as The Importance of Being Earnest and Lady Windermere's Fan.</p>
WILLY RUSSELL	<p>Occupation: Playwright, composer and lyricist. Born: August 23rd, 1946 in Liverpool. Died: Still living (Aged 77). Best known for: Writing musicals such as Blood Brothers and plays such as Our Day Out and Educating Rita.</p>

BRITISH VALUES

