

Drama & Theatre Studies A Level

Hello All and welcome to Drama & Theatre Studies at AGS, I am keen over the summer for you to discover some of the key texts and practitioners we will be exploring over the next two years and more importantly discover a bit more about what you engage in and enjoy in regards to theatre, as so much of this course is subjective and about your own personal creative interpretation and development. Here are a series of tasks for you to bring to your first lesson in September, which we will explore and will help me gauge not only your current strengths and abilities but areas that need developing. I am looking forward to meeting you all.

Ms Swan

TASK 1 – Research

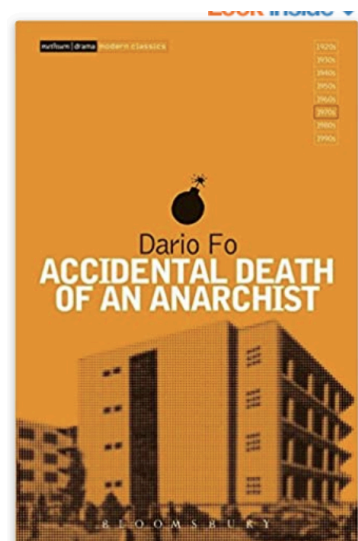
Please type up your own research on the following within 1200 words. –

Research a Theatre Practitioner (Not Brecht or Stanislavski) - Write up your findings thinking about their influences, aims and key style features using images as well as words to explore their ideas and why you were drawn to their work.

TASK 2 - Essential Reading

1. 70% of this course is written work and we need to study and analyse two plays as well as other extensive written tasks within this period. Therefore you will need to have **read** our first set text *Accidental Death of An Anarchist* over the summer - ***You need to purchase the EXACT copy specified on the website reading list - It looks like this*** - This is due to the fact that the exam board prints an extract in your exam and uses this copy to do so, any other copy and you risk being lost during the actual A Level exam which is not ideal!
2. Research the playwright and practitioner Dario Fo. Notes can be handwritten or typed but should not be copied and pasted; use your own words. Use the guidance below, but include anything else interesting you find out

- *Who was he? What was he famous for?*



- *Personal life, how he became a writer, relationships and partnerships.*
- *His notable work and plays; accolades and awards.*
- *The style of his plays and his intentions as a playwright: What did he want to achieve? Who were his target audiences?*
- *What theatre traditions did he draw upon?*
- *What social/political messages did he convey through his work?*

TASK 3 - GCSE Catch Up - If you have not studied GCSE Drama, or you feel you need to do some revision to get back up to speed with the subject or you are a geek like me and just fancy doing a quiz...! Then please complete these Bitesize modules to ensure you have the basics covered before joining the course:

- *Understanding Drama and Theatre:* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z4cphbk>
- *Performing Characters:* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zk9snrd>
- *Theatre Design:* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zd8yf4j>

OPTIONAL TASKS -

- **Live Theatre** - If you are able to go to the theatre or watch something on Digital Theatre.com and write a review of a production you have seen: <https://www.digitaltheatre.com/consumer>
- Start to read and collect some published reviews of recent productions – to help with the Live Theatre component of the exam.
- **Play Reading** - Read some plays! Develop your wider subject knowledge and read plays in a number of genres and styles give yourself more choice for practical pieces later down the line.