

Theatre History Project

This project should be done both individually and as a group. Work individually after school and as a group in the classroom. Be careful not to do so much work at home that you have nothing to do in class though. Your grade will be based on the work that YOU have put into the project on your own as well as the overall group effort.

You will be given 10 pts per day for CLASS participation.

All materials needed should be **brought to class**. No going to somewhere else to get it. If you forget it somewhere then you can bring it the next day and miss out on points today!!!

Each group will be assigned days to work in the media center on the Internet. Use that time wisely to get all work done. You will NOT be given extra time. If you are absent the day your group goes to the lab then you have missed your chance at doing so. You may go to the public or school library on your own time to do your research. Bring some research from HOME so you'll have something to work on before your day in the lab comes.

Here's how the project going to work.

- I will put you in groups of 4 or 5 people.
- As a group you will decide on what era of Theatre History you'll concentrate on. Choose wisely, because you will NOT be changing this. Once you decide it's final.
- Once an era is decided, your group will pick a group name. Something appropriate for the era you're dealing with.
- You will then each decide on a specialty to do your project on. Again, choose wisely, because you will NOT be changing this. Once you decide it's final.

Example: Let's say that your group picked Noh Theatre and you picked stage design as a specialty. Then all of the research and information that you bring in will be about Chinese Noh Theatre stage design. You'll research how a stage was designed. What type of stage was commonly used? What materials and tools did they use to build and/or create the set? What materials, colors and fabrics were used on stage? Who were the major set designers of the period? What colors were popular at the time and what did they signify on stage? Each design element has very definite and significant reasons behind it...what are they and how are they implemented in stage design for the stage? What was going on OUTSIDE the theatre during the time that influenced the choices that the designers were making? ALL of these things and more NEED to be researched, NOT just one thing listed here.

You will bring in your research EVERYDAY and discuss it with the rest of the group. This way you'll all know what was going on during the ENTIRE time period and can help each other understand things better.

What to turn in:

EACH person in the group will be responsible for **THEIR OWN** visual project, written report, speech, quiz questions and for adding research to the folder.

The **GROUP** will be responsible for a Group Presentation.

Explanation of each piece of the project.

Visual Project – 50pts. This is a poster, drawing, stage made of popsicle sticks, a piece of costume etc. from the time period. Each member of the group is responsible for **AT LEAST** one piece of visual effects. You should be able to tell the class what it is, why you chose it, how it is used, why it is used, who primarily uses it and what symbolism or meaning does it have to the piece of theatre. (These are just some of the things you should know...feel free to give us more). Visual presentation can be no less than 3 minutes.

Report – 100pts. 3–5-page written report on your specialty of the era of theatre chosen by your group. **The report will need to be typed and double spaced with 1” margins all around using a 12-point Arial font.** Each report should have one staple in the upper left-hand corner with NO plastic report covers. They need to have a title page and a bibliography with no less than three works cited. So if you type a 3 page report you will staple and turn in 5 pages (Title, report and bib). I'll show you a bibliography page, BUT you can also do a simple Google search to find out how to write it up.

Also remember that 3 pages is 3 pages, NOT two full pages with one sentence on third page. I will grade off for spelling, so **PLEASE** proofread!!! If you don't have a computer, use the lab or the public library or even the local Jr. Colleges and FedEx Store will have them. If you don't know how to type you need to find someone who can. In other words...**NO EXCUSES** for not having them typed. In this day and age of spell checks on the computers it should not be a problem. These should be original works and no “copy and paste” from the Internet. Surprise, I HAVE busted several for doing so...yes, I actually check!!!

Speech – 50pts. You must give a speech based on your findings. Use the report that you wrote as a guide to writing the speech. Basically, the speech is your report findings verbalized. Look at it as the report being for the teacher, but the speech is for the class. HOWEVER, you are NOT allowed to simply “read” your report as your speech. You may use note cards if you wish. But remember, no “reading” is allowed. You must “present” the information to us. If you want to write a speech about something other than what you wrote your report on then you are more than welcome to do so, but you need to double check the speech topic with me FIRST.

10 Question Quiz –50 pts. Each person in your group will come up with a 10-question quiz based on YOUR specialty. If you explain something to the class in your visual project, speech or group presentation than it's fair game for the quiz. Be careful to only add questions based on information you told the class. It should be multiple choice with answers A through D. Quiz should fit on ONE TYPED page with an ANSWER KEY on a separate paper. You MUST then EMAIL AN ATTACHMENT IN MS WORD format to brad.brady@hcps.net After it's emailed, print out a copy to show the group and put in your folder.

Group Performance – 100pts. This can be anything that has a visual “performance” to it that accurately depicts the era your group picked. A scene from a play written in that time period, a fashion show, a skit, a spoof on the times or even an original piece written by the members of your group. Lines must be memorized and scene should incorporate all specialties covered in your group. This is done in full costume with props and everything. Everyone in the group must perform an equal amount within the scene. This scene must be between 5 and 10 minutes long.

Group Folder – 50 pts. Your group will be responsible for handing in a group folder with all the findings from each person in the folder. Basically, you have to put the research you compiled into this folder. Papers should be NEAT and organized. This should be new, one inch 3 ring binder, not some beat up folder from three years ago. The folder needs to have dividers that are labeled with each person's section. All papers in a section need to be 3 hole punched then neatly added to the folder in the appropriate section.

Due Dates

Groups Formed	2/7
Group Names Decided	2/7
Specialty Decided	2/7
Visual Projects	2/21
Speech	2/21
Folder	3/6
10 Question Quiz	3/5
Report	3/5
Performance	3/5

Group Performance Dates

On the day of the Group Presentation:

1. Each person in your group will turn in their report.
2. Your group folder will be due.
3. The group will present the group presentation (5-10 minutes)
4. The group will then have a brief question and answer period for the class to ask any last-minute questions.

Group 1 & 2	3/5
Group 3 & 4	3/6
Group 5	3/7

Your group will have 15 minutes of class time to present your presentations.

THIS IS A 500+ POINT PROJECT!!!!

I SUGGEST THAT YOU DO IT AND DO IT RIGHT.

PROJECT IS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD.

NO CREDIT FOR LATE PROJECTS.

Theatre Eras & Specialties

THEATRE ERAS - As a group you will decide which era you will be working on. You need to have a 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice just in case another group picks the one you wanted.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Medieval Theatre | 4. Noh Theatre |
| 2. Renaissance Theatre | 5. Kabuki Theatre |
| 3. Greek Theatre | 6. Commedia dell'arte |

SPECIALTIES – Each person in the group will pick ONE of these specialties. None can be repeated within a group. Everyone in the group has to have a different specialty. This will be the specialty you research throughout the entire project. There will be no switching or changing after the fact. With each specialty you'll see examples; you're NOT limited to those examples. During your research you'll find PLENTY of other things to say about your specialty, so do so.

Stage Design - You'll research how a stage was designed. What type of stage was commonly used? What materials and tools did they use to build and/or create the set? What materials, colors and fabrics were used on stage? Who were the major set designers of the period? What colors were popular at the time and what did they signify on stage? Each design element has very definite and significant reasons behind it...what are they and how are they implemented in stage design for the stage? What was going on OUTSIDE the theatre during the time that influenced the choices that the designers were making?

Costume Design - You'll research how costumes were designed and constructed. What materials and tools did they use to build and/or create a costume? What materials, colors and fabrics were used on stage? Who were the major costume designers of the period? What colors were popular at the time and what did they signify on stage? Each design element has very definite and significant reasons behind it...what are they and how are they implemented in costume design for the stage? What was going on OUTSIDE the theatre during the time that influenced the choices that the designers were making?

Music & Instruments - You'll research how musical instruments were designed, constructed and used on stage. What materials and tools did they use to build and/or create them? Who were the major musicians or designers of the period? Each instrument design and use has very definite and significant reasons behind it...what are they and how are they implemented in instruments used on stage? What was going on OUTSIDE the theatre during the time that influenced the choices that the designers were making?

Playwrights - Research and find out major playwrights of the time period. What plays did they write and why were/are they important? What are the major elements of the play and the playwright that make it a play we still read today? How did the playwright choose the subjects, topics & characters he wrote about? What are the major and most important elements of their plays? How were they significant for that time period?

Background - Research and find out all aspects of theatre from your given era. You will give the basic background information to not only theatre of that time period, but also life in general. How did people live, what were the significant life changes or inventions of that time period? How did these things affect the theatre? In what ways did "art imitate life" (because it does)? Each major life element has very definite and significant effects on the theatre...what are they and how are they implemented on the stage?

Your name
Name of Class
Period of your class

Greek Theatre Stage Design Quiz

1. What was the time period of Greek Theatre?
A. 3000 BC B. 560 BC
C. 600 BC D. 2900 BC
2. Where did the chorus sing in Greek Theatre?
A. Background B. Upstage
C. Downstage D. Backstage
3. In ancient Greek theatre, plays were usually staged where?
A. Theatre of Greekness B. Theatre of Dionysian
C. Theatre of Gods D. Theatre of the Lord
4. Who is created as the first actor?
A. Thespis B. Stewart Burke
C. John Chapman D. Peter Coke
5. Ancient Greek plays were mainly about what?
A. Comedy B. Dionysus
C. Tragedy D. God
6. What colors were most common in Greek Theatre scenery?
A. Yellow B. Always Orange
C. Bold/Bright D. Simple

Notes:

- This is a sample. Your quiz will be 10 questions!
- This is the format that your quiz needs to be in. If it doesn't look like this, you will lose points.
- 1 inch margins all the way around. 12 pt - Arial font.
- Note that each question has the era in it.
- Don't forget your answer key!!!
- The letters are lined up. Yours should be too.
- Your name, class and period are listed at the top.
- The title of the quiz should have the Era AND specialty listed
- This quiz MUST be emailed to me at brad.brady@hcps.net. When emailing it, send the quiz as a WORD document (.doc) ATTACHMENT. Do NOT simply copy and paste your quiz to the body of the email. **Send at an attachment.**
- A printed copy MUST be turned in as well.

These are 1" (one inch) margins. Here's what you do. Put this page in front of your paper and hold it up to the light. If your paper stops at the black lines on the left and right then your left and right margins are correct. If your paper starts at the top black line and ends at the bottom black line then your top and bottom margins are correct.

This is also double-spaced. You will notice that after the above paragraph I only hit the "enter" button ONCE. You do NOT need to hit the "enter" button twice. If you have set your paper to double space then it has been done for you. Again, it does NOT mean to hit "enter" twice.

You might also notice that I have indented each paragraph; this is done by hitting the "tab" button ONCE. Most computer tab buttons are set to move the cursor over 10 spaces when the "tab" button is hit. If your computer moves it over more than this you will need to go into your settings and change them to equal this amount of spacing.

Also note that there is NO heading at the top of this page. DO NOT add the title of your paper, your name or anything else to the top of this page. The purpose of the title page will be to tell the title of your paper and your name. The start of your report should be just that, the start of the actual report.

Headings for each paragraph are not allowed either. Your paper should look like this one does. Just go from paragraph to paragraph telling about your topic.

There are no pictures allowed in your report either. Your report should consist of you telling all about your specialization in paragraph form. Adding pictures to help fill up the space of your report will not work. If you want pictures you can add them AFTER your 3 to 5 pages of writing are already done.