

A LEVEL DRAMA AND THEATRE

YEAR 11 TO 12 TRANSITION WORK

Section 1

You will be studying *Antigone*, by Sophocles (translated by Don Taylor)

Create a research / context project organised under the following categories.

Keep a Bibliography of all sources. This means copying and pasting the URL of all websites used and the names of any books/e-mags/articles used.

1. ***Antigone*** was written c441 BCE / 5th Century BCE (Before Common Era). **What can you find out about this period of Greek history?**
2. SOPHOCLES – research and note down *brief* biographical details
3. *Antigone*: read a summary of the play's narrative.
4. The OEDIPUS trilogy: find and note down the plot outline for the full trilogy, of which *Antigone* is the last play.
5. Research the key themes in ***Antigone***
6. Find or write out Antigone's family tree
7. Make a mind map or key facts sheet on the key elements of a Greek Tragedy
8. Greek Theatre: research into what a Greek theatre would have look liked. Include:
 - Diagrams / images of the stage environment
 - The performance style
 - Labelled costume parts
 - Greek Theatre Masks
 - The audience experience
9. Research images of previous professional productions of *Antigone*. Annotate your research with areas you like/find create and why.
 - Costume
 - Set design
 - Masks

Section 2

Your second set text will be *Our Country's Good* by Timberlake Wertenbaker. Create a research / context project organised under the following categories.

Keep a Bibliography of all sources. This means copying and pasting the URL of all websites used and the names of any books/e-mags/articles used.

This research will support you in your understanding of the world of the play, and particularly within design elements to show an advanced level of knowledge and understanding. Please support research with images where appropriate.

Context

- 1) Research and write a brief synopsis of *Our Country's Good*.
- 2) Research 18th Century Georgian society – in particular crime, punishment and the divide in class within society.
- 3) What was Tyburn and the “Triple Drop”?
- 4) What were the Transportation ships to Australia and the conditions endured by the convicts?
- 5) What were the methods of punishment on board the ships and in the colony?

Costume

- 1) What would the officers have worn? (18th Century British Naval officers and Royal Marine officers)
- 2) What would the convict women have worn? (fashion in the 1780s)
- 3) What would the convict men have worn?
- 4) What would the Aborigine look like? (Indigenous population of Australia)

Props

- 1) What weapons would the officers have had?
- 2) What would the playscript have looked like?
- 3) What would ‘crates’ look like?
- 4) What lamps would they have had?
- 5) What would candles, tankards, bottles and rope look like?