



KS3: Treasure Island – Live Theatre Review

Students will watch a professional theatrical production, so they can be introduced to the elements of a performance. They will be taught how to write a live theatre review, focusing on an actor's portrayal.

The Actor's Tool Kit

- Pitch
- Pace
- Tone
- Accent
- Volume
- Emphasis
- Facial Expressions
- Gestures
- Posture
- Mannerism
- Body Language



The Plot:

It's a dark and stormy night. Jim, the inn-keeper's granddaughter, opens the door to a terrifying stranger. At the old sailor's feet sits a huge sea-chest, full of secrets. Jim invites him in - and her dangerous voyage begins.

Jim faces shipwreck, a pirate mutiny, and sword fights. Jim's tale is a rags-to-riches story of a young boy who overcomes the odds.

Characters we focus on:

Ben Gunn (Find out why he likes Cheese!)

Jim Hawkins – A young Adventurer

Long John Silver – the villain of the piece.



How to Write A Live Theatre Review

1. What did the actor want to show? (what was going on, what type of character were they)
2. How did they act to get this across to an audience?
(2 sentences using the actor's toolkit)
3. Why was it successful/believable?

Features of the stage

Revolve – stage that moves around and can have set on both sides.

Trap Door – Allows the actors to go beneath the stage to hide

"Many a long night I have dreamed of cheese – toasted mainly!"

Year 7 Glossary

Mime	The use of movements, gestures and facial expressions to communicate an idea without words
Posture	The position a character holds themselves in when sitting or standing
Gestures	A movement made by part of the body (e.g. arms, head) to convey a character's emotion
Mannerism	A repeated physical or vocal habit that contributes to characterisation
Pitch	How high or low an actor's voice is. This can be used as a feature of a character or to show a character's emotional state.
Pace	Pace is the speed that lines are delivered
Volume	How loud or quiet a vocal performance is. This could be a feature of a character or how a character's emotions is expressed
Intonation	This is the rise and fall of a voice that created a natural pattern of speech. This can be used to create meaning, by stressing a word for emphasis
Tone	How a line is delivered, adding emotional impact to spoken words
Accent	Can signal to the audience where a character is from, social class or status
Pauses	Pauses can be used to create tension, can shape the delivery of an actor's lines and/or can add to the realism of a scene
Facial Expressions	Movement of the eyes, eyebrows and mouth, such as smiling and frowning. These movement communicate the emotional response of the character

Movement	The way an actor moves on stage can tell the audience about their character. Stillness can also be used to convey how a character is feeling.
Gestures	Gestures are movements created with parts of the body, such as the hands, arms and head. These are an effective way of conveying the character's emotions
Mannerism	These are small repeated gestures that help the audience to understand aspects of a character's personality.
Unison	The process where actions or dialogue happen at the same time and in the same way
Canon	People moving or speaking in the same way one after the other
Thrust Stage	A stage that extends out into the audience, so that they are seated on three sides
Traverse	A long, narrow stage which runs between the audience, who face the stage on both sides
Proscenium Arch Stage	A box shaped stage which is set back from the audience so that the front end is open to them, frames by the arch itself
End on Stage	A stage which has the audience on one side of the stage, facing the action
In the Round	A style of staging where the audience surrounds the action on four sides
Chanting	A chant is a short, simple series of syllables or words that are spoken with the same tone. It is usually repetitive
Narration	A character who comments on the action and the plot to the audience. can be first- person (involved in the