

GETTING AHEAD



Start to develop skills that are relevant to your course before you join HSDC this September!

Drama & Theatre Studies – A Level

Research *Theatre of the Absurd*

What is it? When was this a theatrical movement and why? How does this link to contemporary times?

Read a Harold Pinter play ('The Dumb Waiter', 'The Caretaker') or a Samuel Beckett play ('Waiting for Godot'). Carry out some further research into one of these playwrights and their methodologies.

Listen to podcasts on Radio 4, documentaries on BBC iPlayer and articles from the British Library. Record any facts/information you discover about them.

What *additional* techniques do they use in their writing?

- Tragi-comedy
- Heightened naturalism
- Unanswered questions
- Subtext
- Underlying menace/violence
- Circular conversations
- Pause/silence

Write the opening scene of a play set during the outbreak of the Coronavirus in the style of Pinter/Beckett. Two characters are confined to their house at the peak of the outbreak. Who are they? Where are they? What is their relationship? What is their backstory? How much of this will you reveal to the audience? What is the underlying sense of menace? What is being communicated through the subtext?

We look forward to seeing you in September!

For further information about your College and being a student at HSDC, please visit hsdc.ac.uk/Alton