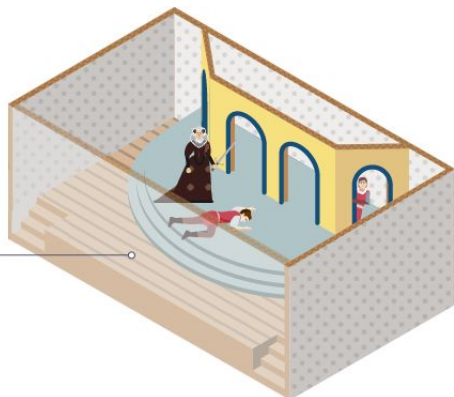




Direct Address is when a performer **'breaks the fourth wall'** and acknowledges the audience or another individual



The fourth wall

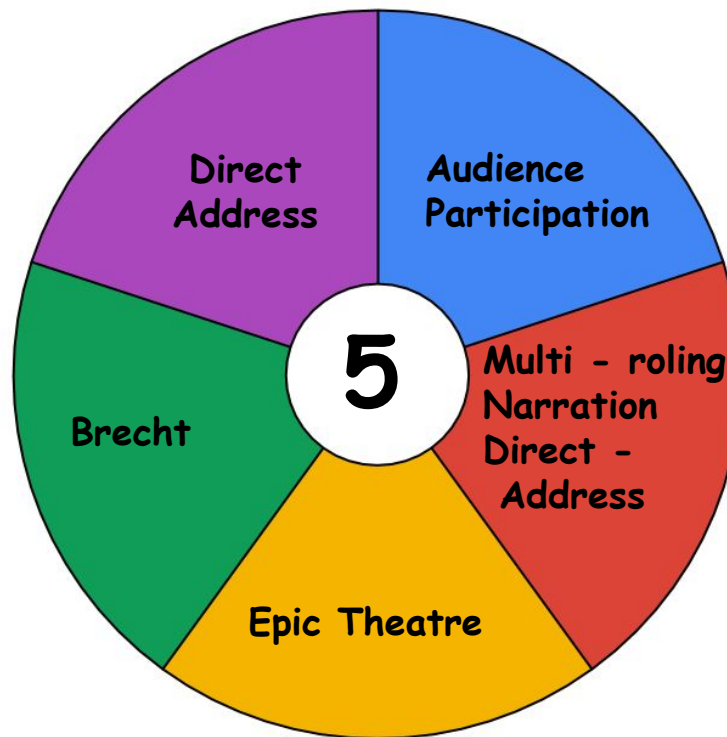
Bertolt Brecht 1898 -1956 was a German practitioner, who believed that theatre should not be watched passively. In contrast, he thought that theatre should make the audience think and cause some sort of response.



Art is not a mirror held up to reality but a hammer with which to shape it.

— Bertolt Brecht —

The 5 Key skills/knowledge for this unit.



Audience participation - as they are primarily educational, the performers will often seek to engage the audience directly

Elements often seen in TiE pieces include:

- multi-roling - they are often performed in schools or community centres by a small company of actors playing more than one role
- direct address
- narration

Epic Theatre: A style or movement of theatre that focuses on political ideas, ensuring that the audience are engaged and questioning the action. Bertolt Brecht's ideas are usually categorised as Epic theatre.

Theatre In Education - Epic Theatre



Key Knowledge / Skills to be taught

You will devise a piece of Theatre in education on a theme of your choice. You will research into their topic to create an original piece of theatre. As well as creating their own scripts, pupils will be learning the style of Epic Theatre.

Context: Theatre in Education, Epic theatre, Non naturalistic, Brecht

Techniques: Non naturalistic , Direct address, Freeze frames, Narration, Thought tracking, Breaking the fourth wall, Using placards, Speaking stage directions, Minimal use of props and costume, split role, multi role, symbolic props and devising.

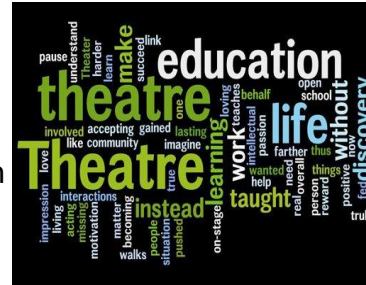
Physical skills: posture, gesture, facial expression, body language, expression freeze frame/still image.

Vocal skills: projection, volume, pause, articulation, tone.

Performance preparation skills: warm ups (vocal/ physical), professionalism, health and safety, team work, mindfulness organisation.

What is Theatre in Education?

'A performance for educational purposes, often with a message for the audience.'



A play should provide "RATIONAL SELF-REFLECTION" and a "CRITICAL VIEW" of the action on stage

'Art is not a mirror to reflect reality, but a hammer with which to shape it'



BERTOLT BRECHT
1898 - 1956

"DISTANCING EFFECT" (VERFREMUNGSEFFECK) 'make the familiar strange'

- Narration.
- Use of white masks
- Songs interrupting action
- Breaking the fourth wall
- Visible scene changes
- Speaking in 3rd person.
- Projections / signs
- Multi / split roles
- Minimal sets / costumes / props
- Fractured narrative
- Harsh / bright lighting
- Speaking stage directions
- Spass (silly comedy)
- Gestus (clear gestures)

Remind the audience (spectator) that the play is a "REPRESENTATION OF REALITY"

"SOCIAL INJUSTICE" and "MORAL" messages

Theatre as a forum for "POLITICAL IDEAS"

Spectators should "NOT EMOTIONALLY IDENTIFY" with the characters or action

Emotion causes the audience to become complacent

EPIC THEATRE

Key Vocabulary word bank

Theatre in Education, Epic theatre, Non Naturalistic, Brecht , Direct address, Freeze frames, Narration, Thought tracking, Breaking the fourth wall, Placards, Speaking stage directions, Minimal use of props and costume, split role, multi role, symbolic props, devising. Posture, gesture, facial expression, body language, expression, freeze frame/still image, Projection, volume, pause, articulation, tone.