

Hello Y11 into y12 A level Drama and Theatre studies students,

Well done for Choosing Drama at A Level. You will have a grand time! By the time we get to start this you will have had a lot of time away from structured learning, so let's make sure that you are ready to go with some knowledge before we start!



Below are the **tasks** (and two optional ones) to help you prepare for the A level course [The tasks here are to prepare you for the **Set Texts**, but don't require the actual set texts in order to carry them out].

**TASK 1:** Read the booklet (same folder as this document): y12 Drama and Theatre STARTER handbook for tasks you'll do in September (If you can get ahead by reading anything on the lists provided, do so!)

**TASK 2:** Watch a video of *Machinal* and a video of *Love and Information*, from the list provided below

**TASK 3:** Read an article / listen to a podcast from one of the suggested sites – also below.

**TASK 4** – If you can, order the copies of the set text you'll need next year. See end.

*OPTIONAL a) If you get the chance to go and see some theatre over the Summer – please do so!*

b) There is **background reading and useful preparation** to be found on the Set Texts in the Keystage 5 folder for Drama – see here:

<https://pfoa.sharepoint.com/:f/s/lsst/drama/EgCpooxICihCoVJUFO1QzncBA5-xvgbBADkyOXLxcXP7tA>

## TASK 2 LINKS:

Several productions of **Machinal** can be seen here.

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Belq-2H5KrY> (UCLA 2005)
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nM5VswNpPml> (CSI production 2010)
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=48Mu3HAIEqM> (NPC production 2017)

Plus interviews and reviews from some of the recent productions.

- a) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwY6dRaoP2M> (Behind the scenes 2018)
- b) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PvHehSuKI5-tw> (Broadway -Rebecca Hall)
- c) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MIEkVBbGJlo> (A review of Broadway version 2014)
- d) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=avlnh7e-icY> ((Almeida Theatre - London 2018)-A review of the production from 2018)

and for **Love and Information** - look here:

- a) as you may or may not know, there are lots of scenes in L and I, and it is written open to interpretation so there are lots of ways of doing the same scenes. You'll be required to decide how you want to stage each scene. Take a look at a few examples here – some are trailers, some are films, and some are amateur and/or student productions.
- b) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pw2NFtOEdcU> (a good short introduction from a Professor of theatre and dance, with glimpses of their (Bowdoin College) production (c3mins))
- c) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a3v3ieaqo8> (Interview with Caroline Steinbeis - Director - Sheffield Theatres)
- d) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pa6n01JFN4E> (Sheffield Theatres trailer 2018)

### TASK 3:

#### WIDER READING ARTICLE:

*The Guardian*, stage: <https://www.theguardian.com/stage>  
*The Independent*, theatre: <https://www.independent.co.uk/topic/Theatre>  
 BBC Radio 4, *Front Row*: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qsq5>

FINAL NOTE – THE SET TEXTS for next year:

If you are able to send for the Set Texts, we ask you to get them yourselves, in order that you can write in them and make your own notes.

The texts are ***Machinal* by Sophie Treadwell**

(can be found here on Amazon): [https://www.amazon.co.uk/Machinal-Modern-Plays-National-Theatre/dp/1854592114/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?keywords=machinal&qid=1585822739&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Machinal-Modern-Plays-National-Theatre/dp/1854592114/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=machinal&qid=1585822739&sr=8-1)

***Love and Information* by Caryl Churchill**

(Can be found here on Amazon): [https://www.amazon.co.uk/Love-Information-NHB-Modern-Plays/dp/1848422881/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?keywords=love+and+information&qid=1585822821&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Love-Information-NHB-Modern-Plays/dp/1848422881/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=love+and+information&qid=1585822821&sr=8-1)

And

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* by Simon Stephens (the play NOT the novel!).**

(can be found here on Amazon): [https://www.amazon.co.uk/Curious-Incident-Night-Time-Modern-Plays-ebook/dp/B00BGPKCO2/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?crd=2CNXSC9NDFJC5&keywords=the+curious+incident+of+the+dog+in+the+nighttime&qid=1585822945&prefix=lthe+curious+%2Caps%2C144&sr=8-2](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Curious-Incident-Night-Time-Modern-Plays-ebook/dp/B00BGPKCO2/ref=sr_1_2?crd=2CNXSC9NDFJC5&keywords=the+curious+incident+of+the+dog+in+the+nighttime&qid=1585822945&prefix=lthe+curious+%2Caps%2C144&sr=8-2)