Knowledge organiser: Drama
Year 9 Spring Term 2

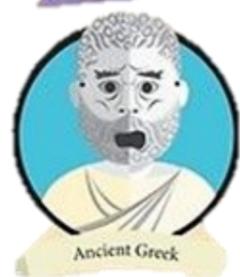## Key words & Definitions

Devising	Creating an original piece of theatre
Theatre Practitioner	A person or theatre company that creates practical work or theories to do with performance and theatre.
Genre	The genre of a performance refers to the type of story being told (ie: comedy, tragedy, etc.)
Style	Refers to how the work is presented on stage (ie– in a naturalistic or non-naturalistic style)
Target audience	Who a performance's content is aimed at (the genre / style chosen should be appropriate to the chosen audience.)

THEATRE STYLES

Ancient Greek	Commedia dell'Arte	Elizabethan	Realism
500 BC	1600's	1600's	Late 1800's
Expressionism	Epic Theatre	Poor Theatre	Theatre of the Absurd
Early 20th Century	1920's	Mid 20th Century	1950's

Constantin Stanislavski	Antonin Artaud	Bertolt Brecht
17 Jan 1863 – 7 Aug1938 Russian actor and theatre director	4 Sept 1896 – 4 March 1948 French playwright, poet, actor and theatre director	Feb 1898 – 14 Aug 1956 German poet, playwright and director (Marxist, political activist)
Style: Naturalism	**Style**: Theatre of Cruelty	**Style**: Epic Theatre
Aims to reflect real life and truth onstage, using natural forms of speech and physical expression	**Aims** for the audience to be "affected", shocked, and involved; wanted to cleanse the audience of their secret fears and desires	**Aims** to present a "political message"; educating the audience about an issue
Techniques: Objectives – desire for your character: 'I want to…' Emotional memory – think back to a time when you had a comparable experience. The Given Circumstances – find out the facts about your character from the text Magic If – What would I do if…?; connecting to character	**Techniques**: Visual Poetry - movement, gesture and dance instead of word to communicate Creating a dream world - use of ritual, masks, etc; to affect subconscious - like a dream Assaulting the audience - with lights, music, sound, images Involving the audience -action would take place all around the audience (to feel a part of it)	**Techniques**: Placards – signs to get audience to react ('Applause') or to highlight a key message Narrators, music and singers Used to directly address the audience and provide political comment. Lack of pretence: set, costume changes, etc. not hidden Multi-roling – Each actor takes on more than one part.