# **Fundamentals of Drama I-II Play Critique**

**Standards**

***TAHSFTI.1*** *Analyzing and constructing meaning from theatrical experiences, dramatic literature, and electronic media*

*a. Critiques elements of theatrical conventions*

*b. Generates and uses terminology and outline for critiquing theatre presentation*

*c. Cites evidence of how theatre reflects life through universal themes*

***TAHSFTI.11*** *Engaging actively and appropriately as an audience member in theatre and other media experiences*

*a. Demonstrates appropriate audience behaviors*

*b. Articulates why the relationship between the audience and performers is critical to the success of the production*

*c. Examines how audience relationships differ with venue and performance type*

**Assignment**

Once per semester, you are required to attend a live performance. This includes but is not limited to:

1. LHS Productions/ Dress Rehearsal (Check with Hayes first)
2. Other High School Productions
3. College Productions
4. Community Productions
5. Regional Productions
6. Professional Production (The Fox)
7. If you are unable to attend a live performance, please schedule a conference with Mrs. Hayes to discuss an alternative assignment. This is **YOUR** responsibility to schedule a meeting and talk with Mrs. Hayes **BEFORE** midterms.

**Requirements**

Ticket Stub or some proof of attendance stapled to your play critique.

**Critique Format**

Paragraph 1—The Basics

Include the answers to the five W’s:

* Who (the playwright, directors, and actors
* What (the title of the play)
* Where (the name of the school or theater)
* When (when did you see it?)
* Why (In a few sentences, state the basic theme of the show)

Paragraph 2- Set Design/Props:

* Describe the sets.
* How well do they add to the overall effect of the play?
* Did it establish a definite mood and correct time period for the play?
* Choose three props to comment on.
* Discuss how they are effective.

Paragraph 3- Make-Up/ Hair/ Costumes

* Describe the make-up/hair
* Does it make characters more or less convincing?
* Is it distracting?
* Describe the costumes.
* How do they add to the characters?
* Were they true to the period of the show and to the characters?
* Are they effective?

1. Paragraph 4- ACTING: Describe and evaluate the acting in the production. Consider the following questions to successfully analyze the acting.

* Choose the performers you liked best – note things they did well (gestures, moments, bits) and explain why you think they were good. Be elaborate and detailed.
* How did the performer’s voice, movement and non-spoken acting interpret the role? What actions contributed to the character created?
* How did the performers relate to one another? Did they listen and respond naturally, or did they look like they were acting? How do you know?
* How did the actors and acting choices affect your appreciation of the play?

Paragraph 5—The Reaction

What is the play’s effect on the audience?

* Was the audience attentive?
* Was the audience interested?
* What was your opinion of the show as a whole?

Remember to:

* Back up all your opinions with valid reasons.
* Be objective, fair, and sincere.
* Evaluate the entire production.
* Be constructive. Indicate good points along with those you felt needed improvement.
* Enjoy the show—don’t go to be overly critical.