

# THEATRE REVIEW GUIDELINES

A-LEVEL TS

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PRODUCTION SEEN: \_\_\_\_\_

THEATRE COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR: \_\_\_\_\_

VENUE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## SET

♦ Look at the stage before the performance.

What are your first impressions?
What do you expect from the performance?
What can you see? List 10 words that could describe the set. What elements of the set stand out and why?
What colours and textures are used in the set design?
What does the set design tell the audience about the play and the characters that are using it?
What parts of the set and its uses impressed you and why?

Who is the set designer? What do you know about the set designer?

Below draw the stage (bird's eye view) as you remember it.

## STAGING METHODS

### Lighting design.

How was lighting used to aid scene changes?

What does the lighting tell the audience about the play? How and why are parts of the set lit?

What colours were used and for what effect?

How was lighting used to create atmosphere?

What parts of the lighting and its uses impressed you and why? What parts of the lighting and its uses were weak in your opinion and why?

List 10 words that could describe the lighting.

Who is the lighting designer? What do you know about the lighting designer?

# Sound

How and why are music and sound used in this production? Consider live, personal and recorded sound.

LIVE

RECORDED

PERSONAL

How was sound used to aid scene changes?

What does the music and sound effects tell the audience about the play? What types of music were used and for what effect?

How was sound used to create atmosphere? List 10 words that could describe the sound.

Who is the sound designer? What do you know about the sound designer?

## Costume Design

What style / time period do the costumes represent?

What do the costumes tell the audience about the play? How and when do costume changes occur?

What colours and textures were used and for what effect?

What parts of the costumes and its uses impressed you and why? What parts of the costumes and its uses were weak in your opinion and why?

How was lighting used to help light the costumes effectively?

List 10 words that could describe the costumes worn.

Who is the costume designer? What do you know about the costume designer?

## ACTING METHODS

How many characters did the actor play? What were they? What types of character are they?

What techniques did the actor employ to denote a change in character?

How did the actor use body language to communicate to the audience?

How did the actor use their voice (pitch / pace / tone / volume) to communicate to the audience?

How did the actor use facial expressions to communicate to the audience?

How did the actor use the space to communicate to the audience?

What did they wear and what did it say about them? How did they use their costume to help tell their story?



How did they use the set to help tell their story?
What parts of the actor's performance impressed you and why? What parts of the actor's performance were weak and why?
How did performers engage with the audience?
What parts of the set are used by the actors and how are they used?

## DIRECTION

Did the director succeed in communicating characters and context to the audience?
What techniques did the director use that you could recognise?

## AUDIENCE REACTION

*How did the audience respond to the production?*

*How did performers engage with the audience?*

## YOUR REACTION

*Write down your initial reaction to the performance before talking to anyone else.*

*How was the performance different to what you have expected?*

*Note down any particularly memorable moments / images etc. Focus on both the positive and the negative.*