

Y12 Theatre Studies A Level Preparation Task

This research task requires you to reflect upon one of the most significant theatre practitioners of the late nineteenth/early twentieth century: **Constantin Stanislavski** an actor and theatre director who to this day has continued to influence the acting and preparation style of actors and actresses the world over, helping to shape some of the most emotional, memorable and believable Drama performances ever seen.



Below are some suggestions of areas that you could cover:



A brief biography of his life and works



Historically, some of the key events that were occurring in both his world and the world at large at that time



His artistic intentions and what he believed was the purpose of theatre



What was considered to be so innovative about his approach



His working methods, theatrical style and use of conventions, particularly considering:

- the fourth wall
- feeling of truth
- the magic 'if'
- emotion memory
- concentration of attention
- intonation and pauses
- restraint and control



Who he collaborated with



His influence on other practitioners

Stanislavski's practice will underpin a number of key elements of your A Level course, both practically and theoretically, so we encourage you to think carefully not only about the actual content of your research, but the presentation of it, too.

In Component 1 of the course, you will be asked to keep a Creative Log which will explain how your ideas have been created, developed and refined, so see this summer work as an opportunity to *experiment* with different ways of presenting your findings.

We hope to see you using at least three different approaches which might include:

- visual images
- charts
- mind maps
- mood boards
- sketches
- Power Point slides
- annotated research in addition to written prose

The finished document can also include headings and sub-headings, notes and bullet points to help you organise the material and does not necessarily have to be computer generated- as long as it is legible!

It does, however, have to be written **in your own words** and you are advised to **list your sources**.

The total word count is 2000- 3000 words.

It is to be handed in to Mrs Hill at the start of the new term.

Thank you in anticipation for what should be an informative and inspirational research assignment.

A Level Transition Reading

Theatre Studies

- *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams
- *1984* by Robert Icke and Duncan Macmillan
- *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen