

Drama Department – Balcombe House Independent Learning Project

Year 7 – Term 4



**Deadline : Week beginning Mon 29th
March 2010 (last week of this term)**

We will be exploring Balcombe House and the dilemma that Mrs Brown faces over the coming term. It is expected that in your lessons you will have the opportunity to '**do**' and learn about some of the following:

- Explore how rumours and gossip cause problems
- Learn how to use physical theatre to literally create the house and the objects in it.
- Learn how to use 'Ques' and structure them into your drama
- Explore atmosphere with soundscapes and storytelling

Key Facts

- Mrs Brown inherited **Balcombe House** from a distant relative who died. She is the only surviving relative.
- The local estate agent is finding it very **difficult to sell** Balcombe House.
- Balcombe House has **16** bedrooms and is set in **huge gardens**.
- The nearest **village** is called Balcombe and is **3 miles away**.
- Mrs Brown decides to **put up posters** in the village asking for a **BRAVE PERSON (visitor)** to stay the night in the house. If they stay overnight she thinks this will **prove it is safe**. Maybe then she will be able to sell the house.

I would like you to use your drama lesson experiences to complete **ONE** of the project tasks. You have a **choice of 3 tasks**. I suggest you make notes after each drama lesson so that you can remember what you have done.

TASK 1 - Design a **poster** that Mrs Brown could put up in the village. The poster needs to attract attention and make potential visitors want to take up the challenge.

Think about including the following

- An **eye catching** heading
- Key facts about what the 'Brave Person' will have to do
- Where Balcombe House is - maybe a small **map**
- How much Mrs Brown is prepared to **pay** (be realistic!)
- **How** and **where** people can get in touch with Mrs Brown
- Pictures of **key rooms** in the house (they might encourage people to apply)
- **Information about the house** – has it got a games room, a massive plasma screen TV set, an indoor swimming pool, a secret cellar ?????

OR

TASK 2 - Write an **account** about what **YOU** did in one of the class improvisations. Use the word **"I"** when you are writing. Imagine the reader was **NOT** in your class and they really want to understand and imagine what you **did** practically and what you thought about the work. Aim to make your account a minimum of one side of A4.

1. Outline the **purpose** of the task? – what were you asked to do?
2. What **character** did you play?
3. How did you **change** to play the character? – body language/voice/gesture ????
4. Where was the improvisation set? (eg gym, pub or park)
5. What **happened** in your scene?
6. What was **good** about the improvisation?
7. What could you **improve** about your performance?

Feel free to use diagrams and sketches (stick people pictures) to help explain what you did practically.

OR

TASK 3 - Write the script for a news report. Journalists have turned up in the village of Balcombe House to report on a new dramatic twist in the Balcombe House story. Be dramatic, use your imagination – think **news headlines !!!!** – and create the script between a journalist and other character/s connected to the story.

Maybe interview one or some of these characters: -

Who could the others characters be – you decide - ????

The local owner of the pub

The local newsagent

The estate agent

Witnesses – of what ?????

Visitor/s who stayed at the house !!!

Remember the layout of a script – the character name should be in the left margin.

GOOD LUCK

For information on how I will mark the work see the next page.



Presentation If word processed then no font larger than 14pt – except for headings/titles
 Staple separate sheets of paper together
 Make sure your name, class and tutor group is **CLEARLY** written on your project.

Drama Written Work Level Assessments

Level 7	Highly organised and informative work - plenty of well researched information - really attractive presentation – demonstrates understanding of the subject matter
Level 6	Well presented/organised work with plenty of interesting information – all information covered – demonstrates understanding of the subject matter
Level 5	Good piece of work- evidence of research- all information covered- presentation acceptable – demonstrates grasp of the subject matter
Level 4	Satisfactory piece of work- basic research- facts presented accurately- some information missing – demonstrates some insight into the subject matter
Level 3	Unsatisfactory work- required areas missing
Below Level 3	This work was below the standard required

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