



A Level Drama and Theatre Studies

Subject Leader: Mrs C Bugg

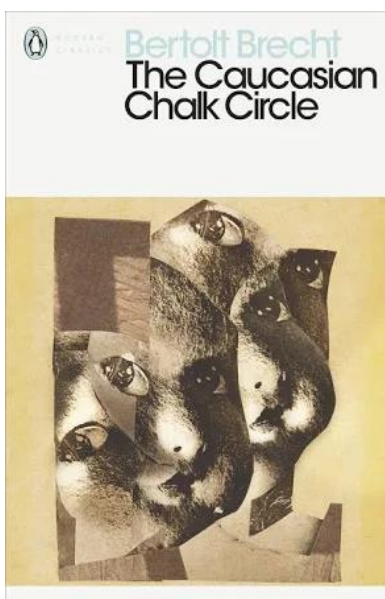
School email address: cbugg@stjosephsmail.com

Transition tasks

1. Purchase both texts and read *Caucasian Chalk Circle*:

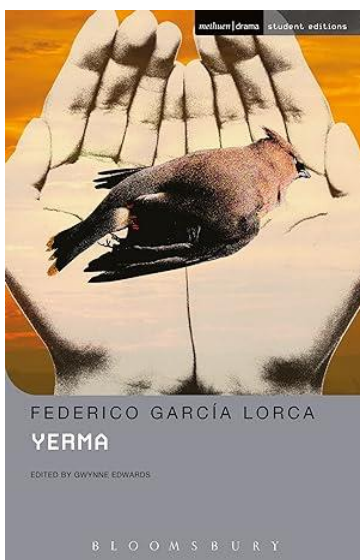
***'The Caucasian Chalk Circle'* by Bertolt Brecht.**

The Caucasian Chalk Circle (Penguin 2007, ISBN: 9780141189161)



***'Yerma'* by Federico Garcia Lorca**

Yerma (Penguin, 2009, ISBN: 0713683260)



2. Write a synopsis for the play *Caucasian Chalk Circle* ensuring that you break the play down into the following episodes. Your synopsis should summaries what happens in each episode. **You will be studying CCC first.**

Prologue

The Noble Child

The Flight to the Northern Mountains

In the Northern Mountains

The Story of the Judge

The Chalk Circle

3. Complete **detailed research** into the practitioner Bertolt Brecht and **one other theatre practitioner of your choice from the list below**. In Y12 you will choose a practitioner and, in a group, you will form a theatre company and create a devised theatre performance inspired by the work of your chosen practitioner.

- **Bertolt Brecht**
- Frantic Assembly
- Steven Berkoff
- Konstantin Stanislavski
- Alecky Blythe
- Antonin Artaud
- Splendid Production Company

Research the following for each of the two practitioners:

- The artistic aims of the theatre maker/theatre company
- Details of past productions
- Social, cultural and historical influences of the theatre maker/theatre company
- Critical reviews of theatre created
- Key themes and ideas explored in the work of the theatre maker/theatre company
- Genre of the work produced
- Style and dramatic techniques and theatrical devises used in the theatre work produced

For the above research create a PowerPoint presentation or prepare a handout that will allow you to present to the class.

4. Complete **detailed contextual research** into the following areas in preparation for studying *Caucasian Chalk Circle* in September:

- Brecht and his life in Germany
- Brecht's experiences during WW2
- Why was Brecht a Marxist?
- Why did Brecht loath a capitalist society?
- What are communistic ideologies
- Brecht's Epic Theatre and his theatrical aims
- Make a list of Brecht's key theatrical techniques
- Solomonic Wisdom (final episode of the play- The Chalk Circle)
- Seven Sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church (Brecht makes direct and indirect references to these throughout the play)

You will not need to present this but will need to submit your research.

Helpful websites and YouTube links

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MoSEFUzhVTw&t=43s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-A8mCjRu5g&t=1111s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ksv4GnTR6l8&t=109s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-828KqtTkA&t=30s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7fqMPDcKXM&t=22s>

<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2022/oct/07/the-caucasian-chalk-circle-review-rose-theatre-london-christopher-haydon-carrie-hope-fletcher>

<https://www.gradesaver.com/the-caucasian-chalk-circle/study-guide/summary>

<https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-caucasian-chalk-circle>