

**Stimulus:**

**Definition:** The starting point of a dance / something that is used to inspire a dance piece.

**Choreographic Intention:**

**Definition:** The aim of the dance / what the choreographers want to communicate.

**Motif:**

**Definition:** A short sequence of movement which communicates the theme/intent of the dance  
It is repeated and developed in the dance.

**Motif Development:**

**Definition:** Ways in which a motif a changed and varied  
E.g. changing the order of the actions, reversing the order of the actions, adding in actions, changing the dynamics of the movement



**Tableaux:**

**Definition:** A still image/freeze frame formed by a group of dancers. It is usually an important moment frozen in time in which the audience can fully appreciate the narrative of the piece.



**Formation:**

**Definition:** The positioning of the dancer. The shapes/patterns created in the space.

**Accumulation:**

**Definition:** When a dancer performs a series of movements and others join in at different times until all perform in unison.



### Levels:

Use of levels help to show the relationship between the characters on stage.

Tip: A higher level shows high authority and weak level shows vulnerable characters.



### Eye Contact:

Use eye contact helps to show the relationships between the characters on stage.

Tip: Avoiding eye contact can show tension between characters.



### Proxemics:

The distance between the characters on stage helps to show their relationship of the character on stage.

Tip: A large distance between characters could symbolise a fall out.

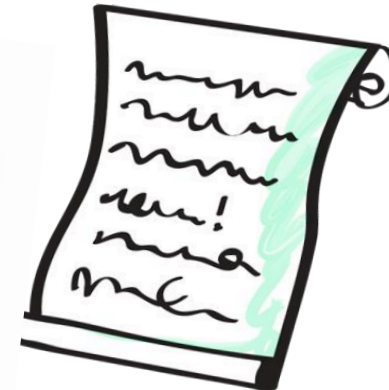
### Tone of Voice:

Tone of voice is the way in which a person speaks to you. The tone suggests your mood and your intention towards the listener.

E.g. angry, frustrated, curious, scared



**PACE**



### Dramatic Pause:

A dramatic pause is where a performer pauses for a moment in their speech. This is often used to create tension and suspense.

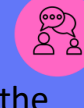
### Pace:

The speed at which someone speaks. E.g. the speaking fast when arguing with someone.



### Intonation:

The rise and fall of the voice. There is a clear movement up at the end of a sentence when we ask questions for example. Intonation also helps us to say what we mean.



**KEEP CALM  
CHECK YOUR  
TONE OF  
VOICE**

**Key Features of Street Dance:**

- Isolation of body parts
- Acrobatics
- Robotic dynamics
- Close relationship with the music

**Examples of street dance:**

- Hip-hop
- Popping
- Locking
- Whacking
- Tutting

**Isolation:**

**Definition:** A technique where you move one part of the body, while keeping other part still.



**Key Features of Contemporary**

**Dance:**

- Floor work
- Expression of emotion
- Tilting and twisting the spine
- Contact and lift work

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**Contrast:**

**Definition:** Movements or shapes within the dance that are very different  
E.g. a fast movement contrasting with a slow movement or a high-level movement contrasting with a low level movement

# Documentary Drama



The study of real life events and experiences and how these can be dramatised for the stage.

## **Key terminology**

**Devising:** Working collaboratively with a group to create/develop a performance.

**Theatrical Skills:** A range of vocal and physical skills that are used by a performer to clearly communicate a character to the audience.

**Stimulus:** A stimulus is a starting point or trigger to generate ideas. These could include photographs, poetry, props, music and historical/real life events

**Initial Interpretation:** Your initial response (thoughts, feelings and ideas) when you are presented with a stimulus.



## **Drama Conventions**

**Marking the moment:** This is used to highlight a key moment in a scene and can be done in a number of different ways: E.g. through slow-motion, a still image, narration, thought-tracking or music.

**Mime:** The use of physical movement and facial expressions to communicate meaning.

**Flashback/Flash-forward:** Going backwards or forwards in time to communicate a clear narrative.

**Cross-cutting:** Cutting from one scene, to another, allowing the performers to communicate two scenes at the same time.

**Thought Tracking:** When an actor expresses their characters thoughts and feelings to the audience.

**Contact Work:**

**Definition:** A moment in the dance where you make physical contact with another dancer.

Contact is a type of dance relationship.

**Examples of Contact Work:**

- A moment of touch
- Counterbalance
- Leaning on a partner
- Lift

**Safety principles:**

- Firm grip
- Create wide stable base
- Slight bend in the knees
- Use strength to control movement
- Concentration

**Skills Required:**

- Strength
- Control
- Balance
- Posture



**Counterbalance:**

**Definition:** Two or more dancers using each other's weight to achieve a balance/maintain a shape.

**Lift:**

**Definition:** Where one dancer holds their dance partner above/off the floor.

**Transition:**

**Definition:** Actions which link together dance phrases or sections



## Stage Configurations:

USR – Up Stage Right

USL – Up Stage Left

CS – Centre Stage

DSR – Down Stage Right

DSL – Down Stage Left

US – Up Stage / DS – Down Stage

## Proscenium Arch /

### End Stage

A stage where the audience sits on one side only is called a proscenium stage.

## Traverse Stage:

A stage where the audience sits on two sides is called a traverse stage.



## Theatre in the Round:

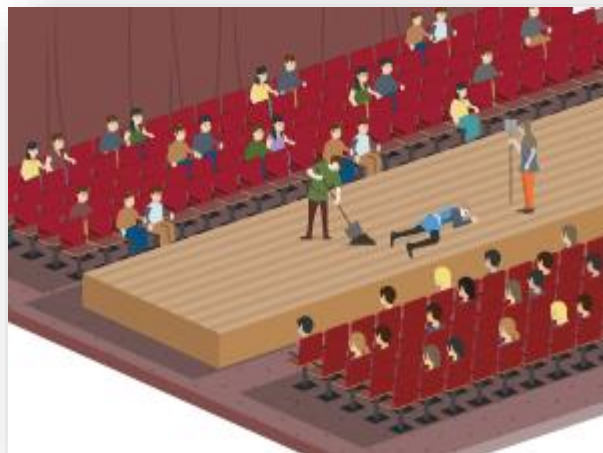
An in-the-round stage is positioned at the centre of the audience. This means that there is an audience around the whole stage.

Upstage

USR	USC	USL
CSR	CS	CSL
DSR	DSC	DSL

Down Stage

Audience



## Promenade Staging:

Promenade theatre is when the audience move from place to place during the performance. This is a popular device used by various modern practitioners.