Role of Theatre & Drama in Classroom

WITH

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WHY
INTRODUCTION TO DRAMA & THEATRE
What is Drama?

The term "drama" comes from a Greek word meaning "action", which is derived from "I do".

- A drama is the portrayal of fictional or non-fictional events through the performance of written dialog (either prose or poetry).
- Drama combines the literary arts of storytelling and poetry with the world of live performance. It has served to unite communities and challenge social norms.
- The major elements of drama include the theme, plot, character, dialogue, settings, performance, music, and visual effects.
- The two masks associated with drama represent the traditional generic division between comedy and tragedy.
4 TYPES OF DRAMA

COMEDY
TRAGEDY
MELODRAMA
TRAGICOMEDY
What is Theatre?

The word theatre is derived from the Greek theaomai, meaning “to see”

Theatre is a collaborative form of performing art that uses live performers, to present the experience of a real or imagined event before a live audience in a specific place, often a stage.

The performers may communicate this experience to the audience through combinations of gesture, speech, song, music, and dance.

Theatres can be categorised into four basic forms:-
- Arena stage theatres
- Thrust stage theatres
- End stage theatres
- Flexible stage theatres

Theatre is about the examination and resolution of fundamental human issues, and is built on understanding and presenting interactions between people.
# Drama Vs. Theatre

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DRAMA</th>
<th>THEATRE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Drama is the script of a play</td>
<td>Theatre is the onstage production of a play</td>
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<td>There is direct interaction between the reader and dramatist</td>
<td>There is no direct interaction between audience and the dramatist</td>
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<td>Interpretation of the play depends on the reader</td>
<td>Interpretation of the play depends on the artists.</td>
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<td>Drama is an abstract entity</td>
<td>Theatre is a physical entity</td>
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DRAMATIC & THEATRE AS A TEACHING TOOL
“Tell me, and I’ll forget. Show me, and I may not remember. Involve me, and I’ll understand.”

- American Proverb
Drama in Education
- In the school curriculum, this is both a method and a subject.
- As a curriculum subject it uses various dramatic elements, and acting out.

Theatre in Education
- A professional team of trained and experienced actor/teachers, who prepare relevant material/project/experiment to be presented in schools.
- These programmes are usually devised and researched by the team/teachers and are for small groups of one or two classes of a specific age.
- The aim of the programmes is essentially educational, and uses theatre, drama in education and teaching techniques for educational purposes.
The blend of Drama, Art, and Education has been there since the time Plato started his Academy. He believed that informing a student just about the concept is not enough.

Drama & Theatre both are pivotal outlets for self-expression and using drama as a teaching tool, students are involved in every way, be it intellectually, physically, socially or emotionally.

The use of drama and art in education leads to holistic learning, accelerates personality development and imparts students with crucial life skills, problem-solving skills, leadership, cooperation and collaboration.
Importance of Drama & Theatre in Education

- It is inspirational
- It challenges perceptions, changes attitudes & behaviour
- It improves self-esteem, motivation, and achievement
- It maximises learning
- It allows students to express a range of emotions
- It delivers important messages that are easily understood and remembered
Incorporating Drama & Theatre in the ESL Class
Including Drama & Theatre in Classroom

1. Act out the Dialogue

Simply pair them up, have them choose roles, then work together to act out the dialogue, figuring out for themselves the “blocking,” or stage movements.

2. Perform Reader’s Theatre

Hand out copies of a short or one-act play, have students choose roles, and then read the play from their seats without acting it out.
Including Drama & Theatre in Classroom

3. Act out the Story

Have students act out the story or part of the story, working in groups and assigning roles and determining the blocking.

4. Write the Dialogue for a Scene

Watch a brief clip of a movie without the sound on. Have students write the dialogue for it and act it out.
HOT SEATING

Hot seating involves a student or actor in ‘role,’ who are interviewed by others such as a class group, acting coach or teacher. The ‘character’ is asked questions which pertain to their role.
ROLE PLAY

Role plays engage students in real-life situations or scenarios that can be “stressful, unfamiliar, complex, or controversial” which requires them to examine personal feelings toward others and their circumstances.
Improvisation, or improv, is a form of live theatre in which the plot, characters and dialogue of a game, scene or story are made up in the moment. Often improvisers will take a suggestion from the audience, or draw on some other source of inspiration to get started.
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THANK YOU!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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