

Theatre Arts II/III/IV

Name _____

Quarterly Play Review assignment Date _____ Per ____

Show your teacher

- this assignment sheet signed by you & parent/guardian _____ /5 pts
due _____ (it will be immediately returned)
- your program and ticket stub (or note from parent/guardian) _____ /10 pts

Submit online through Turnitin.com

1. Go to www.turnitin.com
2. Create an account with a valid email address. You are **Student**. If you try to enter as **Instructor**, you will be blocked. You will have to create a new account.
3. Go back to homepage and login.
4. PD 1 Class ID: 2874913, password Rosenpd1
PD 2 Class ID: 2874904, password Rosenpd2
5. Submit your paper to turnitin.com BEFORE handing in to Mr. Rosen _____ /10 pts

Turn in to your teacher

Typed, double-spaced review (no later than _____) _____ /30 pts
with this assignment sheet as cover sheet _____ /5 pts

(You **MUST** turn in your paper *within one (1) week* of seeing the show!!)

Total _____ /60 pts

** I have seen this assignment sheet, and understand that the project must be completed (a play seen, ticket stub & program shown to teacher, a review written up, and submitted online & hard copy turned in to teacher) NO LATER THAN _____.

signed:

parent

student

- 1) Collecting data
- 2) Responding to the production
- 3) Writing the review

1) Collecting data

• See a performance soon. It can be any kind of play. It can be a professional play in Baltimore or D.C. It can be a middle school, high school, university, or elementary school production. It can be a community theatre production. It can be a church musical or play.

Some sources to find out about shows:

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Local newspapers & magazines: Balt. Sun, (especially Thurs. Live) Wash. Post, (especially Fri Weekend & Sun. Arts) Ho. Co. Times, Columbia Flier, The View, Laurel Leader, etc., Md Family, City Paper, etc)

posters & flyers (often in book stores, libraries and grocery stores)

radio and television
calling theatres listed in the phone book
the internet:

Ho. Co. High School Theatre information: <http://www.hcpss.org/arts/theatrearts/events.shtml>
Washington area theatre info www.helenhayes.org www.washingtonpost.com
Potomac Stages <http://www.potomacstages.com/>
Baltimore area theatre info <http://www.baltimoresun.com/entertainment/stage/>
www.baltimoreperforms.org & other theatre and/or city web sites)

- Take some notes at the performance. Keep the program and ticket stub to show your teacher. Observe and react to the performance. Make notes about the performances, the scenery, costumes, lighting-and your response to the show.

2) Responding to the production

Think about your response to the production

- Is the play interesting?
 - Is the play convincing?
 - Is the play moving?
 - Is the play stimulating?
- What is the playwright trying to do?
 - How well has the playwright done it?
 - Is it worth doing?
- What is the production trying to do?
 - How well has the production done it?
 - What production choices really help? Which might have worked better with other choices?

3) Writing the review

Be fair, but honest

- Some of your review should report what you saw and heard
Some of your review should report what you thought and felt about it

Structuring the review

- First paragraph
Your first sentence (lead) answers “who? what? where? when? why?” for the production. “Who” is the producing organization, “what” is the play and its authors, where is the theatre, when is the date you went and when else the play will be performed, and why may be for money, love, salvation, or whatever makes sense to you. Read the program. Include a one-sentence version of “how” as well.
- Second paragraph
Summarize what happens in the show (plot events), state the major theme, and write a sentence or two about the author(s).
- Following paragraphs (2-5 more paragraphs)
Write about the acting, the direction, the scenery, the lights, costumes, props, makeup, sound, music, dance, program, etc. Describe and also respond to these elements.
What you do differently if you were doing the show, as a playwright, director, or actor?
Explain what, how, and why?