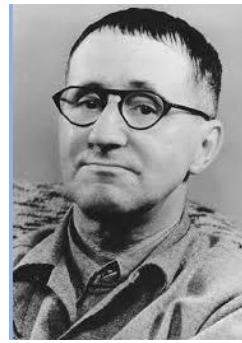


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1. Key Words	
Performance	A piece that is presented to an audience.
Dramatic convention	Techniques used to communicate to the audience.
Performance skills	Signs and Symbols in Drama - an actor will use their Vocal Skills and Physical Skills to communicate to an audience
Technical elements	Signs and symbols in drama - use of Props, Costume, Lights, Sound, Music, Scenery, Set, Hair, Make-up, Backdrop...
Verfremdungseffekt: 'estrangement effect'	Used to distance the audience from the play. It is sometimes called the alienation effect.

2. Performance Skills	
Body Language 	The way you use your physicality to communicate.
Characterisation 	Using a range of performance skills to create a character that is different to yourself.
Gesture 	A movement (usually of the arm/hand) that communicates a specific meaning
Levels 	Using different heights to communicate meaning or to add visual interest.
Voice 	How you use your voice to communicate meaning.
Facial Expression 	Using your face to show how a character is feeling
Proxemics: 	Where a character stands in relation to other characters and/or the audience.

3. Areas of the Stage
<p>Remember: The stage is always from the actor's point of view, as they are the ones standing on the stage.</p> <p>Demonstrate good spatial awareness by using all areas of the stage, where appropriate.</p>

4. Drama Techniques	
Tableau / Freeze Frame	A 'living picture' showing a moment in time – as though the pause button has been pressed.
Exaggeration	Making your voice and physicality as 'big' as you can. Being over the top (OTT) creating comedy.
Script	The lines that make up the story you are telling.
Mime	A silent performance, that uses physicality to communicate intentions to the audience

5. Who was Brecht?
Bertolt Brecht was born in Germany in 1898 and died in 1956. He was a poet, playwright and theatre director. His influence is still present and many would argue that Brecht changed the face of modern theatre.
Brecht made his theatre highly political. He wanted to spark an interest in his audiences' perception of the world. He did not want his audiences to sit passively and get lost in a show's story, but to make them think and question the world they live in. He encouraged them to be critical of society. His work was often mischievous, provocative and ironic.
Brecht did not want the audience to have any emotional attachment to his characters, so he did various things to break it.



3. Physical Skills (Skills that involve using your body)

1. Movement	Does an actor move towards or away from another character?
2. Posture	The position an actor holds their body when sitting or standing. For example, an upright posture or slouched.
3. Gait	The way an actor walks .
4. Facial Expressions	A form of non-verbal communication that expresses the way you are feeling, using the face. E.g. Raised eyebrows or pursed lips .
5. Gestures	A movement of part of the body , especially a hand or the head, to express an idea or meaning. E.g. Waving, pointing, thumbs up .
6. Pace	How quickly or slowly an actor moves.
7. Levels	Sitting, Standing, Lying – what does it show?
8. Touch	Physical contact or lack of it with other characters.

6. Vocal Skills (Skills that involve using your voice)

1. Projection	Ensuring your voice is loud and clear for the audience to hear.
2. Volume	How loudly or quietly you say something. (Shouting, whispering)
3. Tone	The way you say something in order to communicate your emotions. (E.g. Angry, worried, joyous tone of voice)
4. Pace	The speed of what you say. (How quickly, how slowly)
5. Pause	The silence between words and/or sentences. Moments of pause can create tension , show that you are thinking or create emphasis .
6. Accent	Use of an accent tells the audience where your character is from .
7. Pitch	How high or low your voice is.
8. Emphasis	Changing the way a word or part of a sentence is said, in order to emphasise it. (Make it stand out.) Try emphasising the words in capital letters and see how it changes the meaning: “How could YOU do that?” “How could you do THAT ?”

7. Brecht's Techniques

Breaking the fourth wall	This is where the imaginary wall between the audience and actors on stage is broken. Rather than allowing the audience to sit passively and get lost in the show, the actors will sometimes directly address the audience with a speech, comment or a question.
Narration	Narration is used to remind the audience that they are watching a story. Sometimes the narrator will tell the audience what is about to happen in the story, before it happens, because if the audience knows the outcome then they may not get as emotionally involved.
Minimal set, props, costumes and lighting	Brecht believes the stage should be brightly lit at all times. That sets should not be realistic, just suggestive. And that actors should use minimal props, often only one per character. Also props can be used in several different ways, for example a suitcase may become a desk.
Using placards	A placard, or projection screen can be used to give the audience some extra factual information, for example it might say how many people have died in a particular war. Placards can also be used to introduce characters in generic ways, e.g. ‘mum,’ or ‘dad.’ Placards are also used to introduce a new scene, or to tell the audience when one has finished.
Freeze frames / tableaux	The actors may go into a freeze frame, so as to break the action. Sometimes it's done so that the audience can stop and think critically for moment. And sometimes it's done so that the narrator can speak, or so that an actor can come out of character and perhaps break the fourth wall.