

WRITING YOUR LIVE THEATRE REVIEW

Once you have compiled all your notes on the show, you can start to structure and write your Live Theatre Review. An effective Live Theatre Review is sophisticated in terms of analysis and evaluation.

HOW DO I ANALYSE?

When you analyse the production, you explore the use of the theatrical elements in detail. Think of it as 'zooming in' on a specific element or moment. Use phrases such as:

HOW DO I EVALUATE?

When you evaluate the production, you consider the effectiveness of a particular element or moment. You really weigh up how successful it was in terms of the effect, mood, or atmosphere, it created for the audience.

Useful Phrases:

- This conveyed...
- In addition, this communicated...
- This depicted...and connected with...
- However, it...

A good idea is to use a 'Point, Evidence, Explain' structure within each paragraph:

Point: Make a point which answers the question. This is the paragraph's target sentence.

Evidence: A moment in the production that supports your point. You should include details of what happened on stage, using drama terminology and talk about how the element was used.

Explain: What was conveyed or communicated to you/the audience at this moment? How did these details relate to the style and/or themes of the play? How did this relate to the intentions of the director or the overall director's concept?

For example, if you were focusing on the direction in the show, you could perhaps write the following:

(Point) The performer Roger Bart used sophisticated movement skills and comedy timing to create an endearing portrayal of the character of Doc Brown.

(Evidence) This can clearly be seen in Doc's workshop scene in 1955, when Marty enters through the door centre-stage left and tries to convince Doc he is from the future.

(Explain) Bart's unpredictable movements conveyed the idea that Doc is constantly thinking. This was further enhanced by his constantly shifting focus and moments of stillness, especially when he has an 'idea'. His comedy timing was brilliant in this scene, especially when he paused before the line 'this thing doesn't work at all!'.

TASK

Now it's your turn. Can you write a Live Theatre Review about **BACK TO THE FUTURE: The Musical** and include the following:

- ✓ Analysis and Evaluation
- ✓ All the elements from the production - lighting, set, sound, costume, direction & acting.
- ✓ Use the Point, Evidence, Explain structure.