

GREEK PLAY PROJECT—THEATRE I

(100 points)

Objective: To work in groups to create and perform a short, contemporary play/skit that follows the rules of Ancient Greek theatre.

Criteria:

- The play should be a tragedy or melodrama.
- The play should run between 5-7 minutes.
- You must have three actors who play a minimum of five characters.
- The remaining members of your group will be members of the chorus.
- Violence must happen offstage and be described onstage by a Messenger (member of chorus) although dead people may be rolled or carried onstage.
- **The chorus** must utilize words spoken separately and/or in unison; incorporate movement; and convey background information, comment on the action and take small roles.
- The play should be structured with a prologue. (opening monologue or dialogue), parados... (entrance of the chorus), episodion 1 (dialogue scene), stasimon 1 (chorus), episodion 2 (dialogue scene), stasimon 2 (chorus), episodion 3 (dialogue scene), exodus (chorus).
- You should provide your own props and some type of headpiece (hat, wig, etc.) that distinguishes the characters from each other.
- Parts should be memorized

Steps to Modern Day Greek Tragedy:

- Mr Thomas will appoint or accept 4-5 volunteers as Playwright/Directors
- Playwrights will choose 4-5 actors
- Groups will work to come up with a tragic storyline.
- Playwright begins to improvise with the group to write the script
- Cast Characters, appoint lines, Rehearse, follow Greek Play Structure.
- Perform for class: a Modern Day Greek Tragedy

THEATRE I GREEK PLAY PROJECT

Checklist for Greek Tragedy/Melodrama Assignment:

1. Group has decided on a Topic or Theme/Plot. _____
2. Decided who are the 3 main actors and who are the Chorus. _____
3. Written Prologue and some terms from Greek Notes utilized in script _____
4. Will Chorus sing, speak in Unison, Speak individually or a combination _____
5. Start writing in the Greek Structure Format _____ (Prologue, Parados, Episodion...refer to sheet)
6. Had a run through and timed it 5-7 minutes, _____ (ok to be over but not short)
7. Script complete from Prologue to Exodus _____
8. 3 main actors playing at least 5 different parts. _____
9. Run Through rehearsals to feel comfortable with finished script _____ (At least 6 times)
10. Masks, Props, Hats Wigs, Glasses chosen and used in Run Through Rehearsals _____
11. Lines memorized _____
12. Play follows Aristotle's 3 Unities of Time Place and Action _____
13. Play has clear Beginning, Middle and End with a Moral the chorus repeats _____
14. We had Fun with it _____
15. Everyone contributed equally with writing/directing/acting _____