Getting to Know You: Playwrights

Presentation

Students will get a chance to learn about influential playwrights by choosing a famous playwright and giving a presentation. They should give us a brief sketch of their biographical background, as well as detail some of the author’s most famous works, their genre, and their contributions/influence on playwriting and the theatre world. This should also include a description about how various influential works may have impacted society/theatre. All of these playwrights have written influential works. Additionally, presentations should be engaging and informative, and shouldn’t be reading word-for-word from a screen or paper! It can be presented digitally (powerpoint, Prezi, short film, etc.), or as a traditional report. It’s up to you!

Performance

In addition to giving a brief presentation, students will also perform a scene from one of their playwright’s greatest works. Scenes must be completely memorized, and after students perform they must give a brief analysis to the class detailing why the play (from the scene they’re performing) is “good work.” Scenes should be about 5 minutes long, but the entire presentation+performance should be no longer than 10 minutes. If students choose to use the desired cutting from Ms. Taylor they will need to pick what portion of the excerpt they wish to perform. All group members must perform!

Performances will take place on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Extra Credit

Students may complete an additional report/performance for extra credit.

Grading

\_\_\_/30 **Presentation**

* Students give a charismatic, engaging presentation
* Group doesn’t read word-for-word from a screen/paper
* Brief biographical sketch is included
* Details the playwright’s most famous works and why they’re influential
* Description of playwright’s genre and contributions to both theatre performance and playwriting world

\_\_\_/20 **Performance**

* Scenes are completely memorized
* Students analyze as a group why the piece from their play is considered “good work”
* All members in the group perform
* Performance is about 5 minutes long