



Drama Bridging Unit

Watch a play and share your feelings and ideas on it.

You will need to log on to the National Theatre website using the details provided below:

Your access details are:

<https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/series/national-theatre-collection-iid-190464>

Username: 8Lh\$6Re#

Password: 9Ws"3Yo+

Compulsory, core activity:

Watch the play, *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams.

When you have finished, write a brief review (approx 500 words). Although your teachers will be reading it, your target audience is your fellow students (so make it lively and interesting).

You could include an exploration of some of the following points:

- The play is a tragedy. What did you think of the experience of watching it? How did it make you feel?
- What key ideas do you think the playwright wants us to be thinking about?
- What were the highlights for you?
- And the low points? Were there any parts that you struggled with or couldn't relate to?
- What about the characters? Who did you empathise with? Anyone? Were the actors effective?
- Setting (time and place) and how it was created?
- Use of lighting, props, music, colours etc?

Extension activities for those aiming for top grades:

Watch another of Williams' plays, *A Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

Do you notice any similarities or striking differences between the two plays?

Watch some of the other tragic plays available. You will be studying Shakespeare's tragedies in Yr 13 so dipping into *Othello* is a good idea. Also, you can extend your knowledge of tragedy by watching the classical dramas, *Antigone* and *Medea*. Make some notes on your reaction to these strong female characters. These plays were written and first performed over 2000 years

ago. Do they strike you as dated and irrelevant or do the issues they explore still interest us today?

My Review: