

SIL Y12 – Y13

UAL Performing and Production Arts Diploma

Task 1 – Practitioner Research

Task 2 – Practitioner Research

Task 3 – Watching theatre and writing a review

All tasks need to be complete to the best of your ability. For each task use the given format to guide you, however you can complete in a different format if you wish to do so. All work will be collected in the first week back in September. Label each piece of work with the task number.

Task 1 -

Practitioner Research – Stanislavski Techniques:

Task:

Create a resource of information answering the following questions:

This can be done electronically or written:

- Who was **Konstantin Stanislavski**? Provide a brief biography, focusing on his work as a director, actor, and co-founder of the Moscow Art Theatre.
- Describe the **core principles** of his acting system, including:
 - **Given Circumstances**
 - **Magic If**
 - **Objectives (Super-Objective and Through-line of Action)**
 - **Emotional Memory (Affective Memory)**
 - **Units and Beats**
 - **Circles of Attention**
- Explain how Stanislavski's work laid the foundation for later acting methods (e.g., Method Acting, Meisner Technique).

- Provide examples of practitioners or actors influenced by his approach (e.g., Lee Strasberg, Stella Adler, Sanford Meisner).

Resources to consult:

- *An Actor Prepares* by Konstantin Stanislavski
- *Building a Character* and *Creating a Role*
- Documentaries, interviews, or scholarly articles on Stanislavski's system

Task 2 – Meisner Technique – Research

Task:

Create a research resource answering the following questions about the Meisner Technique.

This can be presented electronically (e.g. slides, document) or handwritten.

1. Who was Sanford Meisner?

Provide a brief biography, including:

- His work as an actor and teacher
- His role in the Group Theatre
- His contribution to actor training and the development of the Meisner Technique

2. Describe the Core Principles of the Meisner Technique

Explain each of the following in your own words:

- “Living truthfully under imaginary circumstances”
- Repetition exercise
- Emotional preparation
- Focus on the other actor
- Impulse and instinct
- Independent activities

3. Connection to Stanislavski

Explain how Meisner's technique was influenced by Stanislavski's system.

You should consider:

- What ideas are similar?
- What did Meisner change or simplify?
- How does Meisner's approach differ from emotional memory and detailed script analysis?

4. Influence on Acting

Explain how the Meisner Technique has influenced modern acting.

Include:

- Types of performance it is commonly used for (e.g. theatre, film, TV)
- Why it is effective for creating realistic performances

5. Practitioners and Actors

Research and provide examples of:

- Actors trained in or influenced by Meisner
- Other practitioners connected to Stanislavski's legacy (e.g. Lee Strasberg, Stella Adler, Sanford Meisner)

Suggested Resources:

- *Sanford Meisner on Acting* by Sanford Meisner
- Interviews or masterclasses with Meisner-trained actors
- Documentaries on the Group Theatre
- Articles comparing Stanislavski, Strasberg, Adler, and Meisner

Extension (Optional):

Write a short paragraph explaining which acting technique (Stanislavski or Meisner) you think would suit you best as a performer and why.

Task 3 – Writing a review

Using the attached template on assignments complete the theatre review for the play *Everyman* by Carol Ann Duffy performed by National Theatre.

Details of login:

https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350997707&tocid=do-9781350997707_6120708738001

Log in details:

Username: RUIPFG

Password: XUNNMI