

# KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



## Soap Opera (Naturalism)

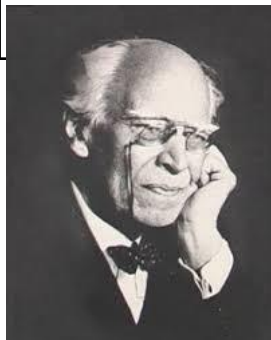
Year 8  
Autumn 1

### Context

Naturalism	Naturalism is a movement in European drama and theatre that developed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It refers to theatre that attempts to create an illusion of reality through a range of dramatic and theatrical strategies.
Setting	Naturalism and <b>Stanislavski</b> . Russian practitioner, <b>Konstantin Stanislavski's</b> ideas are very influential. He believed in naturalistic performances that were as realistic as possible, and invented techniques that you can use.

### Some background to Stanislavski's technique

Stanislavski's Technique or 'Method'	<b>Stanislavski Technique</b> stems from his theatre practice and is still used by actors all around the world today. The <b>method</b> is an actor training <b>system</b> made up of various different <b>techniques</b> designed to allow actors to create believable characters and help them to really put themselves in the place of a character.
Emotion Memory	This technique is all about recalling the past event to the point, that it moves you. Or sometimes it is even creating a new one just to bring out the emotion that you might have never experienced. The purpose of this technique is not to lose yourself in the scene (which an actor must never do). The moment you lose yourself, you move away from your part which is not asked of you as an actor.



Konstantin Stanislavski  
1863-1938

An actor must ask 7 questions



- Who am I? Start with the basics and then fill in the gaps with your imagination. ...
- Where am I? ...
- What time is it? ...
- What do I want? ...
- Why do I want it? ...
- How will I get what I want? ...
- What must I overcome to get what I want? (you ask these questions about your character not yourself)

### Using naturalism to create scenes from soaps



You will create 2 scenes from a soap opera so what will you need to consider?

#### Characters are often stereotyped. For example:

The delinquent teenager	The community leader
The frustrated housewife/husband	Gangster/criminal
Nagging parent	Elderly resident
Promiscuous male/female	Entrepreneur
The gossip	The never-do-well
The prodigal son/daughter	The spinster
The cheery shopkeeper/landlord	The bore

#### Other important things to consider

Settings	Pub, shops, doctors surgery, the street, houses, school, church, police station
Storyline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affairs</li> <li>• Young people getting in trouble</li> <li>• Secrets</li> <li>• Illnesses</li> <li>• Betrayals</li> </ul>



END ON A  
CLIFFHANGER