**Theatre (50 mins)**

**Materials**

1. Theatre booklet
2. Theatre powerpoint
3. Pens

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| **Key Questions/Ideas:*** What did the ancient theatre look like
* How do ancient performances differ from modern ones?
* How did theatres develop from Greece to Rome?
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| **Schedule and Timing** | **Notes** |
| **Brief Introduction** (2 min) | RegisterCheck materialsIntroduce the layout of the session, and how I would like people to contribute to the discussions. |
| **Starter Activity**(10 min)Class discussion, individual notes | Layout of the theatre of Dionysus on the worksheet, connect the definitions to the layout with colour coding/ arrows:* Eisodoi
* Skene
* Ekkyklemma
* Mechane
* Statue of Dionysus
* Orchestra
* Chorus
* Answers are on the powerpoint
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| **What’s the story?****(Tragedy)**(10 min)Work in pairs | * Discuss any myths students may have heard of.
* Match the pottery image to the myth by numbering them on the handout
* Discuss strategies for pairing the plot and title if students are unfamiliar with myth e.g. distinguishing male/ female character names, spotting continuity of one character’s story across multiple plays e.g. or using the pottery images.
* Point out costumes on the pottery
* Run through answers on the powerpoint
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| **Myth Now**(10 min) | * Printouts of the slides will give a reminder of each tragedies’ plot line.
* Split the class in to pairs or groups and give them 1 story slide each **without sharing who has what**.
* Their task is to write a Netflix summary for their tragedy in 3 **sentences without naming the characters.**
* **Use the example on the board to show them how it can be done and see if they can guess the myth.**
* Come back together as a class, ask each group to read their summaries and see if the class can guess which tragedy it is.
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| **Who wrote what?**(10 mins) | * Run through major playwrights and ask pupils to add the dates and match the playwright to the myth to see who wrote what.
* They can do this by drawing lines to connect the artwork to the playwright.
* Emphasise that pots and plays were how the illiterate masses would engage with myth: not everyone could read and write!
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| **Spot the difference** (5 min)Work in pairs | * Students need to annotate the differences between 2 reconstructions of ancient theatres side by side one is the theatre of Dionysus (Greek), the other the theatre of Pompey (Roman) what are the differences? (5 mins)
* Feedback the differences and discuss why we think these changes occurred. (10 mins)
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| **Plenary****(5mins)** | * Run through of what they have learned
* Explain how pottery can give clues about costume and staging
* E.g. Medea’s dragons and costume
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