

PRODUCTION CRITIQUE

This format should be followed for all productions at EDHS and any outside productions that you see. If you do not follow this format, your grade will be lowered. This does not mean that you have to address all the points listed on this sheet, but that you address the main ideas indicated in each paragraph, and that you address them thoroughly. All critiques must be between 1.5 and 3 pages, typed or word processed. They should be double spaced. Hand written critiques will not be accepted. If your critique is under the minimum number of pages, your grade will be lowered.

Paragraph #1: Indicate the name of the play, the playwright, the theatre, and the performance date. Use the program to make sure that you spell things correctly. Briefly describe the atmosphere in the theatre and the setup of the auditorium (proscenium arch, open stage, thrust stage, in the round, etc. Basically, what is the general mood when you first enter the theatre?

Paragraph #2: What was the main idea, messages of the play. DO NOT give a plot synopsis. Describe what you think the playwrights intent was with the play (i.e. "The play is about the pitfalls of love, which can be seen in the characters of Jack and Jill and the way that their relationship progresses.) Give support from the production.

Paragraph #3: How did the technical aspects of the production reflect the ideas and the messages. (i.e. "before a large backdrop were the actors dressed in all white, which emphasized the ominous environment surrounding the characters). Also discuss the effectiveness of the technical aspects. How did specific lighting, set, costume, sound, prop choices have an impact on the overall production. Be specific....don't just say, it was "good." What was good about it?

Paragraph #4: Discuss the effectiveness of the acting choices in the production. Give specific examples of characters that were especially effective and/or characters that were not as believable, and give justification for these choices. Do not simply state, "Joe was good." Be specific. What about his performance was particularly effective and/or believable?

Paragraph #5: Overall Impact. This section deals with your and the audience's response to the production. How have you been helped or hindered towards an understanding of the play? What didn't you understand, or what wasn't communicated clearly to you? Were you interested or bored, and why? How did the audience react as a whole? Is there likely to be any long term impact on you and, if so, what?

STAPLE YOUR PROGRAM OR TICKET STUB TO THE BACK OF YOUR CRITIQUE.

CRITIQUES FOR OUTSIDE PRODUCTIONS MUST BE HANDED IN WITHIN TWO WEEKS OF SEEING THE PRODUCTION. LATE CRITIQUES WILL BE WORTH HALF CREDIT.