

## Year 8 Drama Knowledge Organiser

### Melodrama

<i>Key Word / Drama Skill</i>	<i>Definition</i>
<b>GENRE</b>	A type of performance that can be defined by specific key features and audience response
<b>MELODRAMA</b>	A theatrical genre in popular in the Victorian era. Literal translation
<b>STOCK CHARACTERS</b>	The term given to the stereotypical characters in Melodrama
<b>HEIGHTENED ACTING STYLE</b>	An exaggerated and over the top way of acting
<b>SLAPSTICK</b>	A comedic routine that uses humour and heightened acting to make the audience laugh
<b>MELODRAMA ROUTINE</b>	A stock (typical) narrative (Villain takes advantage of Victim, Hero saves the day!)
<b>LOOP DIALOGUE</b>	Over the top dialogue that accompanies a melodrama routine; repeated 3 times with increased exaggeration

#### Features and Conventions of Melodrama

- ***Melodrama* = Music (Melody) + Acting (Drama)**
- ***Melodrama* is a style of theatre created in the late 1800s (also referred to as Victorian Era)**
- **It was a form of comedy for Victorian audiences**
- **Music used to underscore the acting**
- **Exaggerated Acting and Characterisation**
- **Humour and Comedy**
- **Stock Characters – Clear Villain, Victim and Hero**
- **Stock Routine – Villain takes advantage of a Victim with a scheming plot, the Hero saves the day and rescues the Victim**

#### Subject Specific Vocabulary Spellings

Theatre

Performer

Performance

Audience

Role

Facial Expressions

Gesture

Dialogue

Theatrical

Genre