Written Task: Review of a Performance - 20%

**The Task**

You are to write a review of an excerpt of a live recorded performance of ‘Driving into Walls’. Barking Gecko Theatre Company | **Driving Into Walls** | by Suzie Miller | **Directed by** John Sheedy | **Venue:** Studio Underground, State Theatre Centre of WA | **Dates:**Feb 25 – March 3, 2012 | **Tickets:** $39 – $15.50 | **Bookings:** [www.perthfestival.com.au](http://www.perthfestival.com.au/" \t "_blank) | The review will explore and discuss the components of a performance. The word length is 1000 words.

**Creating and Making a Review**

Your planning for this activity will be assisted by reviewing the steps listed in the booklet and by reading the two sample reviews provided (The other sample is in the booklet). ‘Tempting Shakespeare’ by William Shakespeare. Bell Shakespeare Company. Sydney Opera House.

The booklet that accompanies this task should help you to prepare for the Barking Gecko Theatre Company performance review, make notes and create your final written assessment.

**In your review, include discussions of:**

* Plot and story
* Themes and issues
* Actors’ performances of their characters
* Elements of production and how they contribute to dramatic meaning.
* Remember to conclude your discussion with an overall opinion and evaluation.

**Review Checklist**

You and your teacher will evaluate your work individually, using a list of criteria. These criteria relate to your achievement in this task. These criteria are listed on the evaluation sheet at the end of task sheet and will be used to evaluate your ability to:

* Respond to each of the areas of a performance that need to be evaluated
* Write a detailed and analytical response
* Include examples from the production to illustrate and support your judgements
* Write and articulate and sophisticated manner appropriate for theatre criticism
* Present ideas using coherent and clear structure
* Draft and edit your review incorporating a headline and graphics.

**Arts Criticism and Aesthetics**

1. Once you have written your review, reread it. Look for ways to improve the communication of your ideas. Write a second draft.
2. Read another student’s review. Write comments about the strength of the review. Discuss your response with the person who wrote the review.
3. Give your review to someone else to read and ask them to make notes on your review. Discuss their comments. Write a final draft.

Read and Watch <http://www.barkinggecko.com.au/show/driving-walls>

**Write**

Write the review on the following highlights of ‘Driving into Walls’ by Barking Gecko Theatre Company. Focus your review on this 5 minute excerpt derived from a one hour performance. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=55tVuZ8rQPY&list=PLOX26n92HNf0vkOU6S2UJm4FUf9vE7YmN>

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Student…………………………… Teacher ……………………………….

Related Outcomes

By completing the task you should be able to:

* Identify particular elements of a performance for evaluation
* Identify the strengths and weaknesses of a performance
* Appreciate how the elements of a performance work together
* Use examples from a performance to support opinions
* Use appropriate language to discuss ideas
* Use computer technology to create a review of a performance

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | B  E  G  I  N  N  I  N  G (1) | C  O  N  S  O  L  I  D  A  T  I  N  G  (2) | M  A  S  T  E  R  I  N  G  (3) | E  X  C  E  L  L  I  N  G  (4) |
| Criticism and Aesthetics  Have you communicated an understanding of the overall play excerpt by   * Summarizing the plot and story? * Describing and explaining the themes and issues? * Describing the directorial concept, its appropriateness and effectiveness? * Using examples to support your opinions?   Have you considered the actors interpretation of character by:   * Evaluating the actor’s performances of their characters? * Using examples to support your judgments?   Have you considered impact of the production elements on the  Overall performance by:   * Commenting on the impact of:   -set  -costume  -lighting  -sound?   * Using examples to support your opinions?   Have you expressed your ideas well by:   * Using appropriate language and terminology? * Creating a well-structured review that is clear, sophisticated and articulate? * Presenting a word-processed review that includes a title and graphic? |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL \_ \_ / 44 | 11 | 22 | 33 | 44 |

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| Criteria Level of  Achievement |

COMMENTS: