

# Dramatic elements

Elements of

**drama**

Tools dramatic practitioners explore, apply and interpret to shape dramatic meaning and audience engagement.

Elements of

**performance**

Dramatic meaning is the ideas, feelings, images and stories communicated with an audience.

Elements of

**production**

Audience engagement is the level and type of audience response developed in relation to intention and context.

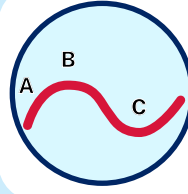


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# Elements of drama



**Role** is the point(s) of view, object(s) or persona(s) that dramatic practitioners present through embodiment.



**Structure** is the way a dramatic work is shaped, which can include cause and effect, narrative, plot, and sequencing of images, motifs or ideas.



**Character** is a role built with complexity, personality and background.



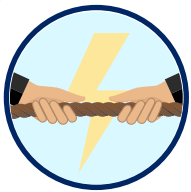
**Language** is the ways of expressing and receiving images, ideas, feelings and stories using spoken, visual, written and gestural communication strategies.



**Focus** is the awareness and engagement of dramatic practitioners and audiences.



**Moment** is a point in time in a dramatic work or experience that creates meaning, engagement and impact in itself and in the dramatic journey.



**Tension** is the energy which drives drama. Tension can be developed through embodiment, structure, problems, tasks, conflict and manipulation of audience expectations.



**Atmosphere** is the feeling or mood created through dramatic action.



**Situation** is the circumstances that characters experience and shape through their actions and intentions.



**Belief** is the ways dramatic practitioners shape the audience's acceptance or relationship to the imagined world.



**Space** is the shape and spatial design of the performance area, and the spatial dynamics and relationships between performers, performance area and audience.



**Symbol** is an object, action, character, image or sound that can represent an idea, action or feeling on a conscious or subconscious level.



**Time** is the transformation of the real time of the audience to the imagined time of the performance.



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# Elements of performance

## Voice

Voice is applied by using speech, song, other vocal utterances, sign language or augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) technologies to communicate.



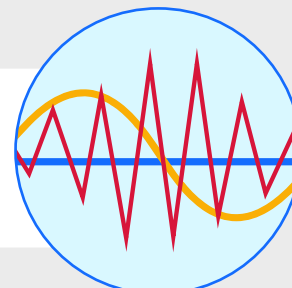
## Movement

Movement is the processes or results of moving performers, objects, sets, lighting and/or audiences in dramatic works and experiences.



## Dynamics

Dynamics are variations or changes, particularly in voice and/or movement.



## Clarity

Clarity is clear communication in relation to intention and context, particularly in voice and movement.



## Energy

Energy is the intensity of action, particularly in voice or movement.



## Expression

Expression is the communication of ideas, images and emotions by the performer.



# Elements of production

## Set

Set is the designed and/or constructed setting or scenic needs of a dramatic work.



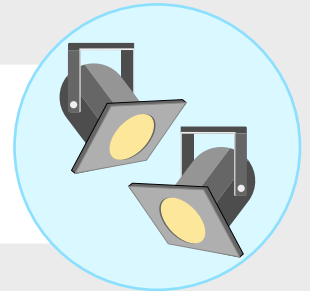
## Costume

Costume is clothes, hairstyles, masks and/or make up used in creative works.



## Lighting

Lighting is the ways natural or artificial light sources are used to focus, shape and/or reveal action, spaces and/or meaning.



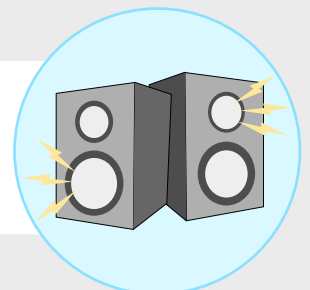
## Props

Props are objects handled or used by actors in a performance.



## Sound

Sound is the aural features from live or recorded sources used to enhance elements of drama such as atmosphere, space, character and tension.



## Technology

Technologies are the electronic and mechanical tools, systems, devices and resources that are used to make, perform or appreciate drama.

