Theater Performance Review

Objective: To create a newspaper style review of live theatre production.

Requirements: Attend a theatrical production at a High School, College, Community or Professional Theatre. Write a review of the production in the style of a newspaper or professional web review. Follow the guidelines below to assist in your writing. Avoid using the word "I" in your review. All papers should be in normal 12 point font (Cambria, Arial, or Times New Roman). Papers should be single spaced. All papers should be between 500 and 2000 words.

Deadline: Reviews are due no more than two weeks after seeing the production and proof of attendance is required. (Signing in and out at a Topeka High show, or if attending non-THS shows a ticket stub, program, or picture with a cast member after the show will work as proof.) All reviews must be typed.

EXAMPLE

Name: Class:

Title of Review.

Start out with the facts: who, what, when, where, etc.

Give an explanation and/or history of the show. (*This may take research*.)

Talk about the show as a whole.

Talk about the acting.

Talk about the technical aspects of the show: Set, Lights, Sound, Costumes, Makeup/Hair, Publicity, etc.

Review the show overall. What was the concept or goal for the show? Give your recommendation.

What should be in your review?

All reviews are based on what you see. Describe the show in detail. Your opinion is only based on descriptions from the show. You need to support all opinions with specific examples.

Your review focus should cover the areas in your theater class. For example, reviews by students in Theatre Appreciation and ATE, and Thespians submitting for points should write about all aspects of the show. Acting 1 & 2 students should review the acting. Stagecraft students should evaluate technical aspects of the show.

REFERENCE

For other newspaper style reviews:

NY Times Theatre Reviews | Broadway World

For theatre references or information:

IBDB | Playbill | Tony Awards