Writing a play critique

### Paper Format

**Include a title (*Play Critique* is not a title…be creative!)**

**Name, Date, Period in the upper left hand corner**

Paragraph 1:  Introduction

* Include the location of the play, title of the play and its writer(s), director’s name, choreographer’s name, and the musical director’s name.
* Briefly summarize the plot in 6-8 sentences.

Paragraph 2:  Acting.  Include Three **specific** actors to critique.

* Explain the characterization of the actors on stage?  Describe their movement and ask yourself if it is appropriate for their characters?  Why or why not?
* Do you see the actors listening and reacting truthfully to each other and the action occurring on stage?  Explain.

Paragraphs 3:  Set Design

* Discuss the creative quality of the set.  Does anything unique or specific stand out to you?  Explain.
* Discuss the use of color on the set.  Is it appropriate to the production?  What type of emotional response does the color palate communicate to you?
* Explain if the set reflects a specific social class that is pertinent to the production?
* What information does the set tell you about the characters in this world?

Paragraph 4: Costumes & Make-up

* Costumes
	+ Discuss how the costumes show social class, personality, and age in the characters.
	+ Explain how the costumes & makeup reflect the era of the production?
	+ Do the choices of the costumes work for you or do you disagree?  Why?
	+ Does the costume designer use a specific color palette through out the production?  What does this tell you about the show or the characters?
	+ Discuss how the hair and makeup show social class, personality, and age in the characters
	+ How do the hair and makeup communicate the time era to the audience?

Paragraph 5:  (Only to be completed for musical reviews.  If you are critiquing a regular play proceed to paragraph 6.)

* Choreography
	+ Describe your overall impression of the dancing?  What did you like and what did you not like?  Explain.
	+ Describe how the dancing moved the story in a forward direction.  If you do not think it moved the story forward explain why.
	+ How well did the dancers handle the choreography?  Did they dance with ease or did they make it look difficult?  Explain.
	+ If someone made a mistake describe how they handled the mistake.  Explain how this made you react as an audience member.
	+ Explain whether the dancers were fully committed to the choreography or simply going through the motions.  How did this make you feel as an audience member?

Paragraph 6:  Conclusion

* Summarize your impression of the over all production in a few sentences.
* Grade the play with a percentage (90%, 72%, etc.) and briefly explain why you gave it that grade.
* Tell whether or not you would recommend the play someone else to see it.  Why or why not?