

Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Introduction

Introduction

Plays have many of the same story elements as prose, such as characters, plot, and conflict. However, there are many additional terms related to drama that will help your understanding when reading a play. Click each of the tabs to explore these key elements of drama.



- Act
- Aside
- Comic Relief
- Dialogue
- Drama
- Monologue
- Playwright
- Scene
- Script
- Soliloquy
- Stage Directions

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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Act

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An act is a major division of a play.



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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Aside

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An aside is a short speech that is spoken to the audience or another character but not heard by other characters on the stage.



The image shows a man in a white shirt and a woman in a light blue top in a meeting. The woman is whispering to the man, illustrating the concept of an aside.

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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Comic Relief

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Comic relief is a humorous scene or character that serves to break the emotional tension during a serious or tragic drama.



- Act
- Aside
- Comic Relief**
- Dialogue
- Drama
- Monologue
- Playwright
- Scene
- Script
- Soliloquy
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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Dialogue

Dialogue

Dialogue is lines spoken between two or more characters.



The image shows two men sitting on a wooden bench on a stage. The man on the left is wearing a light blue cardigan, a light-colored shirt, and a hat. The man on the right is wearing a dark sweater and light-colored pants. They are both looking at each other and appear to be in the middle of a conversation. The background is a red curtain.

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- Monologue
- Playwright
- Scene
- Script
- Soliloquy
- Stage Directions

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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Drama

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A drama is a story designed to be performed on a stage by actors.



- Act
- Aside
- Comic Relief
- Dialogue
- Drama**
- Monologue
- Playwright
- Scene
- Script
- Soliloquy
- Stage Directions

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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power
Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Monologue

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A monologue is an extended speech made by a single character to one or more other characters.



Act

Aside

Comic Relief

Dialogue

Drama

Monologue

Playwright

Scene

Script

Soliloquy

Stage Directions

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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Playwright

Playwright

A playwright is the author of a play.



- Act
- Aside
- Comic Relief
- Dialogue
- Drama
- Monologue
- Playwright**
- Scene
- Script
- Soliloquy
- Stage Directions

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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Scene

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A scene is a section of a play's act.



- Act
- Aside
- Comic Relief
- Dialogue
- Drama
- Monologue
- Playwright
- Scene
- Script
- Soliloquy
- Stage Directions

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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Script

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A script is the text of a play.



- Act
- Aside
- Comic Relief
- Dialogue
- Drama
- Monologue
- Playwright
- Scene
- Script**
- Soliloquy
- Stage Directions

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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power
Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Soliloquy

Soliloquy

A soliloquy is an extended, private speech that reveals a character's true feelings and thoughts.



Act

Aside

Comic Relief

Dialogue

Drama

Monologue

Playwright

Scene

Script

Soliloquy

Stage Directions

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Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 4 Content: Elements of Drama

Stage Directions

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Stage directions are instructions in the script of a play indicating stage actions, delivery of lines by performers, and production requirements such as costumes, lighting, or props.



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Aside

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Dialogue

Drama

Monologue

Playwright

Scene

Script

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