

**Currently, in lessons you are reading a play. Linked to this, we are now going to write a review of the play you are currently studying.**

# Lesson 1

Learning objectives:

**To develop an understanding of what makes an effective review.**

# DRILL

***What do you already know about writing a review? Write down everything you already know.***

We will build on this in today's lesson.

# A Midsummer Night's Dream

By Total Film

**3/5 STARS**

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**Verdict:**

**A tale of fairies, lovers and actors may not be everyone's idea of a great night out, but the acting in this Shakespearean comedy more than compensates for the lack of visual magic. Not the greatest update ever, but worth a look anyway.**

**► [A Midsummer Night's Dream News and Features](#)**

A Midsummer Night's dream has made its way back on to the cinema screen. Its setting includes fairies/fake forest.



**Read this review of a version of Shakespeare's a Midsummer Night's Dream made for the cinema.**

**Summarise each paragraph – the first one is done for you.**

These words may help you understand the text:

**Frolicking** – to move in a cheerful or lively way

**Vista** – a pleasing scene/view

**Sumptuous** – expensive looking

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**OVER TO YOU –  
WHAT HAPPENS IN  
THE OTHER  
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The setting becomes fake after the opening - this may be because of a small budget. The poor staging is almost enough to ruin the performances by the actors.



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If you take away the setting, there is some good in the performance.



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If you take away the setting, there is some good in the performance.

Not amazing, but overall worth watching.



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# Further develop your knowledge:

<https://youtu.be/kUxm1tDhO2g>

**Watch the clip.**

**Make notes about what you learn about REVIEW WRITING.**

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**What's the structure?**

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**Introduction – what are we reviewing?**

**Where is it set? What is it about?**

**Opinion – what's bad? What's good? Include specific details.**

**Further details – more opinion.**

**Overall verdict/opinion. Do you advise people to go and see it?**

**What's the structure?**

**Stop and Jot: What makes an effective review?**

**Think about  
adjectives**

**Include  
information  
about what  
happens in the  
PLOT and  
CHARACTERS**

**Include your  
opinion**

## **Stop and Jot: What makes an effective review?**

**Engaging  
introduction**

**Lively, chatty  
style**

**What's the setting  
like?**

**Humour – can  
you add  
something to  
make your  
reader laugh**

# Lesson 2



Learning objectives:

**To apply your knowledge by writing a review about the play you are currently studying.**

# DRILL

***What do you remember about  
review writing from last lesson?  
Write down everything you  
remember.***

## A review should include:

- A lively introduction which clearly sets out what you're writing about.
- 3 developed paragraphs:
  - Plot – what happens?
  - Characters
  - Good bits – adjectives to match/bad bits – adjectives to match
- Ideas and language suitable for the lively and chatty style.
- End with a conclusion/verdict – 5 STARS

Use the grid to plan your ideas...

PLAN

Paragraph 1

What happens in the play?

Paragraph 2

Are there any characters you like or don't like?

Can you give some specific details about the characters and what they do?

Paragraph 3

What is your favourite bit? Can you explain why?

What's your worst bit? Can you explain why?

**WRITE YOUR REVIEW...**

Read your REVIEW out to someone else in your house.

Does it make sense? What needs to change? What would make it better?

RE-DRAFT.