EXPLORING DRAMA: THEATRE / LANGUAGE ARTS TERMS
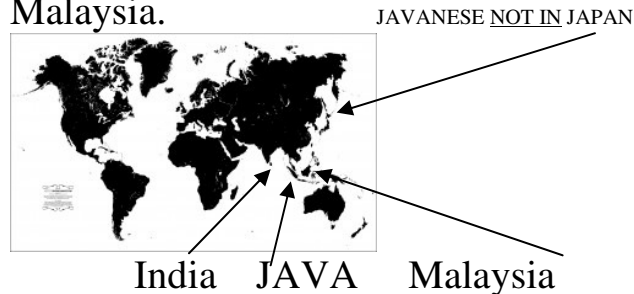
1) plot……………1) what happens in a story

2) exposition……..2) **beginning** of story where **characters** & **setting** are introduced

3) rising action……3) major **conflict** or **goal** is given; leads to climax

4) conflict…………4) **problem**; action meets obstacle; the opposition of persons, forces, or ideas that gives rise to dramatic action in a play

5) climax………….5) event in story where **outcome is certain**; problem is solved or not; goal is achieved or not.

6) resolution/………6) **conclusion** where conflict is resolved (effects of climax); plot is
denouement   unraveled; lesson or theme is shown; protagonist shown to live happily ever after or not happily ever after.

7) foreshadowing…..7) a **hint** of what will happen **later** on in the story

8) theme……………8) the **meaning** or **lesson** of a story

9) analysis………….9) to break down into **smaller parts** for greater understanding

10) metaphor……….10) **comparing** two things in a sentence **NOT** using "like" or "as"

11) sim**ile**…………..11) **comparing** two things in a sentence **using** "**li**k**e**" or "as"
(Mneumonic Device: Notice the word simile has 3 of the same letters as like & only missing the "k" and the word "metaphor" only shares one letter with the work "like")

12) idiom…………...12) **figurative phrase**. Ex. " He has a chip on his shoulder."

13) analogy………….13) **comparing** two things in a **paragraph**

14) figurative………..14) words whose **meanings** are **changed** to mean something else.
     language   Ex. "She has butterflies in her stomach." This means she is nervous

15) dialect……………15) **accent**; the way a person speaks due to where they live

16) irony………….....16) when the **opposite of what is expected** happens. Ex. A man runs everyday to be healthy and live longer, then is killed by a bus while performing his daily run.

17) narrative…………17) a **story** written in one of three points of views

18) first person………..18) story narrated by **oneself** using: "I, my, we, and our"

19) third person………..19) story narrated by a person who knows everything using: "he or she"

20) omniscient…………20) **knowing everything**

21) subjective………….21) decision based on **feelings or opinion**

22) objective…………..22) decision based on **measurements, data, and facts**

23) antagonist………….23) usually the **villain** or "bad" person in the story

24) protagonist…………24) usually the **hero** or "good" person in the story; the principal character

25) tone…………………25) the **attitude** a writer takes towards a subject or character: serious, humorous, sarcastic, ironic, satirical, tongue-in-cheek, solemn, objective; similar to mood; writer frequently use dialogue to set the tone

26) improvisation.............26) dramatic performance on the spur of the moment with little or **no rehearsal time**; impromptu

27) pantomime…………..27) a **scene or play without words**; the actors use action and gesture only

28) monologue…………..28) a **speech** given by **one person**

29) dialogue……………..29) **words in a play**

30) inflection……………30) tone or **pitch** of one's voice from a deep voice to a high, shrill voice; intonation

31) enunciation…………..31) **clearly pronouncing** a word or words

32) <u>Tragedy</u>………………32) Originated in **Greece** around 500 B.C. Greek; they were performed in late March/early April at an annual state religious festival in honor of Dionysus in open air theaters or side of a hill where three linked stories were performed (**trilogy**) and one satyre (**comedy**) was performed.All actors were male and wore masks. A Greek chorus danced as well as sang.

33) <u>Wayang</u>……………….33) Indonesian **Javanese Shadow puppet** theater originating in the first century where a puppet was placed in front of a light source and the audience would watch the shadow of the puppet perform on a primitive screen. Shadow puppets were also popular in India and Malaysia.   JAVANESE <u>NOT IN</u> JAPAN

            India   JAVA   Malaysia

34) <u>Commedia dell'Arte</u>…34) **Italian**, **improv**isational **comedy** which began in the **16th century** and is performed today. Actors wore masks and audience members would donate money or watch for free.

35) <u>Elizabethan Theatre</u>… 35) **English theatre** in the **16th century** which began after the origin of Commedia dell'Arte and is one of three types of theatre that make up English Renaissance theatre. Genres included history, tragedy, comedy, pastoral (lifestyle of shephard), and morality plays.

36) <u>William Shakespeare</u>…36) one of the most famous **playwrights in Elizabethan Theatre**; he produced fewer than 40 solo plays in a career that spanned more than two decades; he was financially successful because he was an actor and, most importantly, a shareholder in the company for which he acted and in the theatres they used.

37) Kabuki………………37) **Japanese theatre** is a dance drama which began in the 17$^{\text{th}}$ century where male and female roles were played by women only. After 30 years **all** the female and male **roles** were played by **males**, which is the case today. Actors usually have heavy **white make-up**, accentuated lip and eye make-up, and black wigs.

38) Charlie Chaplin………..38) Born in England in 1889 and died in 1977 (88 yrs. old at the time of his death); **comedian** most famous for his square, black mustache while playing the **Tramp character**, he was in **two of the highest grossing silent movies of all time** #5 The Gold Rush (1925) and #7 The Circus (1928). Tramp wore huge shoes, baggy pants, tight vest, used a cane, and he wore a bowler hat. He wrote, acted, directed, and produced in most of his movies. He composed music and sang in The Circus. He was the co-founder of United Artists and starred in over 80 movies. Valkyrie, starring Tom Cruise was the last major movie United Artists made.

39) Lillian Gish………..……..39) starred in the **highest grossing silent film of all time** (The Birth of a Nation in 1915) and two others that were part of the 14 highest grossing silent movies of all time and was in over 80 movies.

40) Talkies………………..…..40) **movies that have sound**; in 1927 the first feature-length movie with sound(dialogue) premiered and was titled *The Jazz Singer*. By the 1930's these were very popular. Gone With the Wind was made in 1939 and is the highest grossing movie of all time (adjusted for inflation). Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs was made in 1937 and is the 10th highest grossing movie of all time (adjusted for inflation).