

# 6 Elements of Drama

Mr. Hungerford - Theatre Arts

# Elements of Drama

- ◆ Aristotle -
  - ◆ Greek Philosopher
  - ◆ 384 - 322 B.C
  - ◆ Wrote "Poetics" which defined drama

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As defined by Aristotle in "Poetics"

## ◆ 1. Plot -

- ◆ The story of the play. The progression of the protagonist which includes his or her conflict with an opposing force (The Antagonist).
  - ◆ The Antagonist is not always a person but maybe a force of nature, society, moral code, or some other entity.
  - ◆ The way in which the protagonist deals with this force illuminates the Theme.

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- ◆ 2. Action - The central action is the pivotal dramatic moment when the issues and progression of the play become clear through a decision made and carried out by the protagonist.

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- ◆ 3. Diction - The language of the characters. Includes the style, dialect, rhythm and the actual words the characters say.
- ◆ Dialect - the usage or vocabulary that is characteristic of a specific group of people. ex: W.C (british use)
- ◆ Dialect - the sound

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- ◆ 4. Sound - Everything the audience hears in the play.
- ◆ 5. Spectacle - Everything the audience sees.
  - ◆ scenery, costuming, dance, pantomime, swordplay, special effects, explosions, fire, water, lighting effects

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- ◆ 6. Thought - The central idea the playwright is exploring, which embodies a truth about life --The Theme.

The End