



# DIGITAL THEATRE+

## VIRTUAL CLASSROOM

### Guidance Pack to Virtual Learning for English/ELA

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Moving to a virtual classroom and online/distance learning? Below is a list of resources and suggestions on ways to use Digital Theatre+ to help you create meaningful and engaging online learning for your students.

In addition to the 250+ productions on DT+, which can be assigned to students to watch from home, below are suggestions on how you can make use of our other content and resources in your virtual classroom.

- [Audio Theatre](#)
  - [Director's Notebooks](#)
  - [Documentaries](#)
  - [Essays](#)
  - [Graphic Novels](#)
  - [Guides](#)
  - [Lesson Toolkits](#)
  - [Practical Guides & Lesson Plans](#)
  - [Study Guides](#)
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## LESSON TOOLKITS

Each toolkit contains a lesson plan and supporting resources including:

- Quizzes
- Extension questions
- Relationship maps
- Links to relevant content on DT+ to use during the lesson.

The lesson plans are broken down into individual activities, which can be separated, assigned individually, and adapted for distance learning.

If an activity requires group discussion, this could be done virtually in a chat room or video call with students participating remotely.

### USEFUL TIPS

- If an activity calls for post-it notes to be put up on the wall, there are a number of online resources where virtual post-it notes can be used. Students could also collaborate in an online document to list the information they would have put onto the post-it notes.
- Discussions based on a particular prompt can be turned into writing assignments or journal entries.
- Open discussion can be completed in an online chat room/hangout.

## DT+ LESSON TOOLKITS

- [A Doll's House](#)
- [An Inspector Calls](#)
- [Frankenstein](#)





- *Hamlet*
- *Macbeth*
- Shakespearean Tragedies (with a focus on *King Lear*)
- *The Crucible*
- *Things I Know To Be True*

**Note:** if an activity is practical and unable to be adapted for virtual learning, please feel free to reach out to us and we can help you tailor the activity to your individual needs.

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## STUDY GUIDES

DT+ has over 25 [study guides](#) on a variety of texts, which can be used in multiple ways to deepen understanding of a given text. Here are some suggestions on how to use study guides in your virtual classroom:

- Each of the sections within the individual study guides includes questions which can be posed to students. Students can respond to them in short answer or essay form, or can discuss them in an online forum.
- You could make individual sections of the study guide available for students to read through and pose questions to them at the end.
- Questions can be pulled out and turned into quizzes or worksheets for students to complete and hand over to you.

### DT+ STUDY GUIDES

[A Doll's House](#)

[A Midsummer Night's Dream](#)

[All My Sons](#)

[Antigone](#)

[As You Like It](#)

[Beautiful Thing](#)

[Billy the Kid](#)

[Death of a Salesman](#)

[Far from the Madding Crowd](#)

[Ghosts](#)

[Hamlet](#)

[Into the Woods](#)

[King Lear](#)

[Long Day's Journey into Night](#)

[Macbeth](#)

[Merrily We Roll Along](#)

[Much Ado About Nothing](#)

[Private Lives](#)

[Romeo and Juliet](#)

[The Comedy of Errors](#)

[The Crucible](#)

[The Taming of the Shrew](#)

[True West](#)





## PRACTICAL GUIDES & LESSON PLANS

Digital Theatre+ **Practical Workshop Guides and Lesson Plans** encourage students to approach material using the practical, investigative and interpretive methods of an actor, director or voice coach. This applied approach creates a deep and thorough understanding of a play as a blueprint for performance.

The exercises and activities found in each of the practical guides can all be adapted for the virtual classroom.

### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

These can be completed via video conferencing, for example:

- **Pass the Beat** – instead of standing in a circle together, assign students numbers and pass the beat to each other in number order during a video conference on your chosen platform.

### DISCUSSIONS

Discussions can happen in any number of ways. Some examples are:

- Video conferencing
- Google chat
- An online collaborative document such as Google Docs.

### PAIRS AND SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES:

Students can coordinate working with their partner or group and return the assigned work to you upon its completion.

- Written work can simply be completed and turned in;
- Rehearsal type work can be filmed and recorded via video conferencing, on FaceTime for example, and sent to you.





## USEFUL TIPS

Other exercises/activities can be turned into written work. For example: if students are asked to retell the story in performance, this could become a writing assignment. You could have them write a monologue, a short play, a fairy tale version, a motivational speech, an election/rally speech, or any number of prompts to have them retell the core story of the play.

## DT+ PRACTICAL WORKSHOP GUIDES

*A Streetcar Named Desire*

*A Taste of Honey*

*A View from the Bridge*

*An Inspector Calls*

*Antigone*

*Art*

*As You Like It*

*Blithe Spirit*

*Blood Brothers*

*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

*Cloud 9*

*DNA*

*Edward II*

*Frankenstein*

*Hamlet*

*King Lear*

*Loot*

*Measure for Measure*

*Mother Courage and her Children*

*Much Ado About Nothing*

*Othello*

*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*

*The History Boys*

*The Homecoming*

*The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*

*The Winter's Tale*

*Top Girls*

*Waiting for Godot*

## DT+ LESSON PLANS

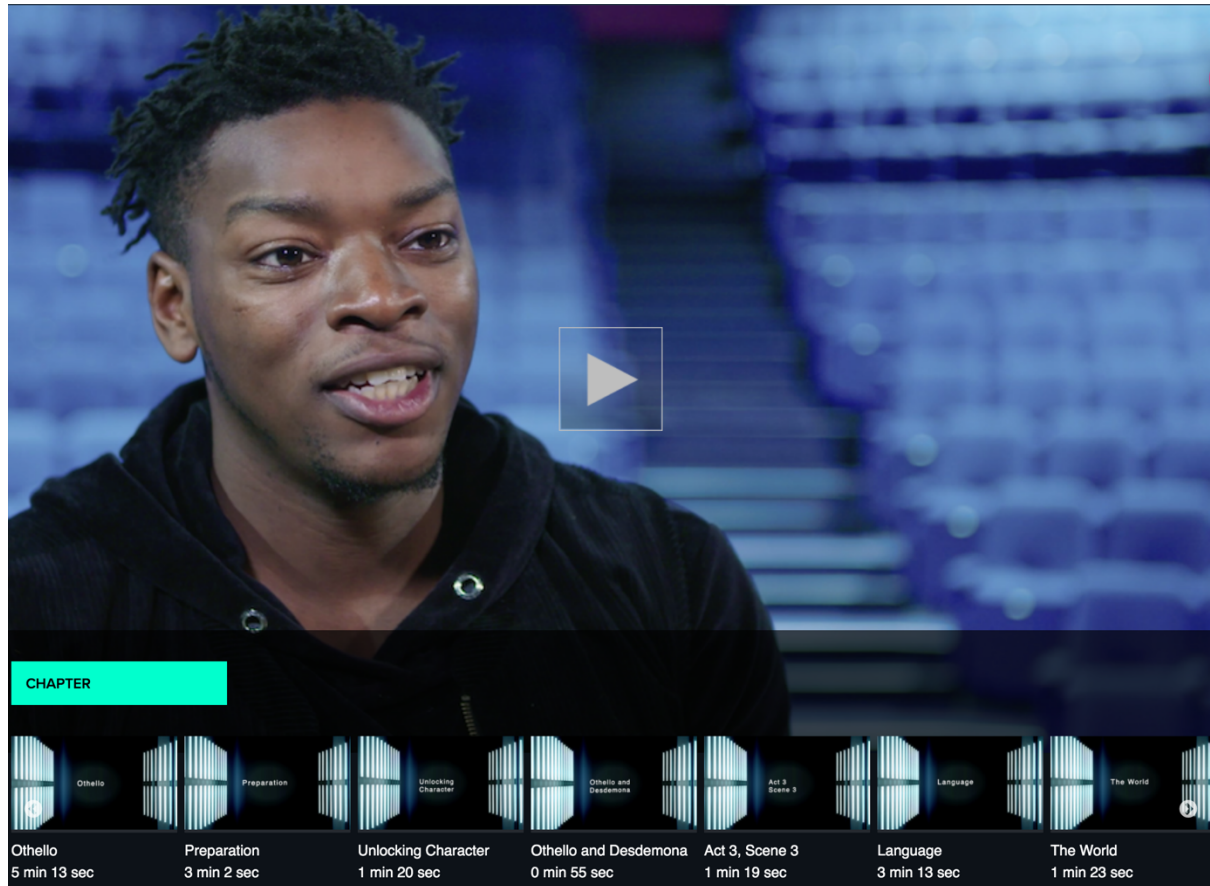
Lesson Plans: Devising

Lesson Plans: Genre and Style



## INTERVIEWS

Use our in-depth [interviews](#) to gain additional information about interpretation, process, texts, and careers. Interviews are broken into chapters and can be watched in short segments, or viewed in full.



On Othello: An Interview with Victor Oshin

Some of our interviews can be watched alongside the relevant production in order to delve deeper into the individual choices and interpretations made by the director, actors and designers, which is a key learning outcome for students.

Other interviews focus on a particular practitioner, theatre company or practice such as costume design, lighting design, set design, and staging.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTEBOOKS

Our **Director's Notebooks** provide invaluable insight into a professional director's rehearsal notes, personal processes, directorial concepts and dramaturgy for staging a play. Students can look to them as examples of how to create their own Director's Notebook, research interpretation, and gain insight into the context of the piece.



Costume designs by Dora Schweitzer from Director's Notebook: A Passage to India ©

### DT+ DIRECTOR'S NOTEBOOKS

- [A Passage to India](#)
- [Babe, the Sheep-Pig](#)
- [Death of a Salesman](#)
- [Julius Caesar](#)
- [Much Ado About Nothing](#)
- [The Birthday Party](#)
- [Translations](#)



## DOCUMENTARIES

We have several documentaries which will aid students in gaining additional information on a text and/or topic, helping them to deepen and enrich their studies.



Shakespeare's Sonnets | Illuminations Media

Some key documentaries to look at are:

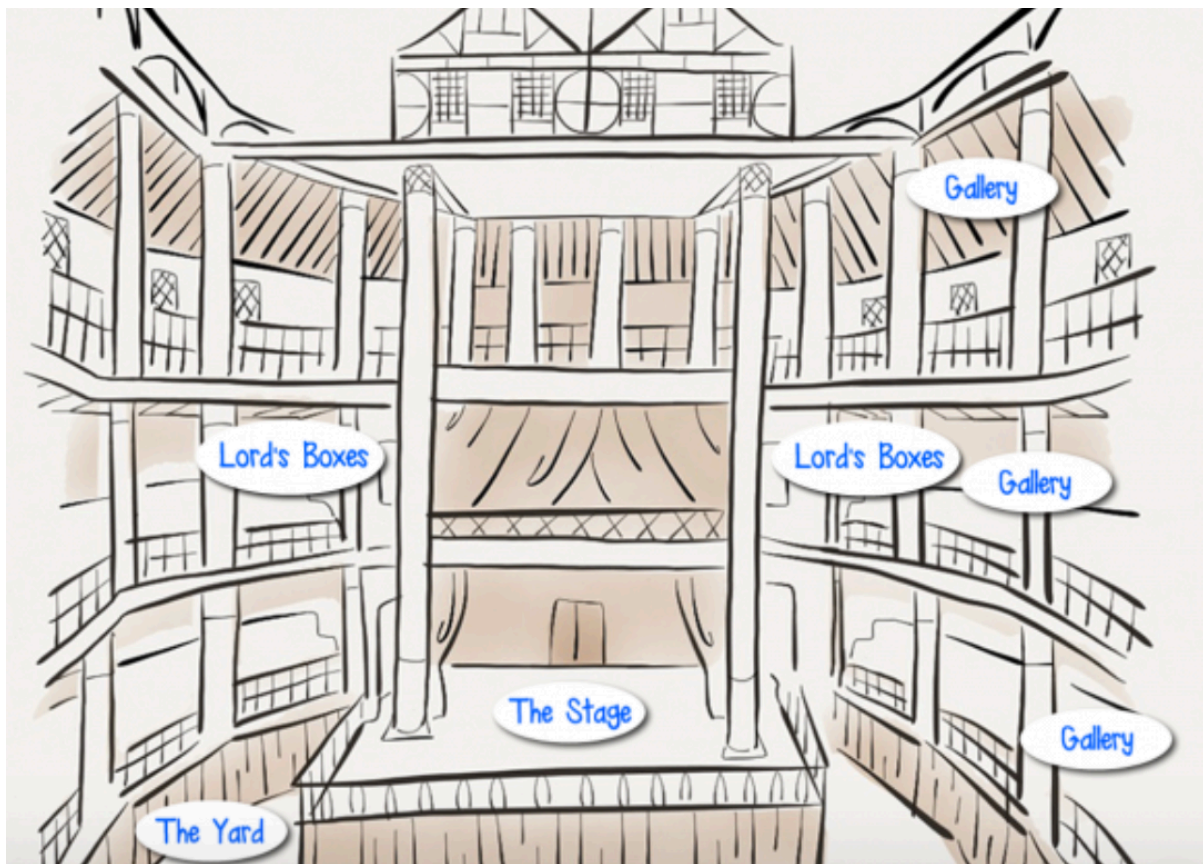
- **About the Production: *Far from the Madding Crowd***
- **Arthur Miller**
- **English File: Red Hook not Sicily - A View from the Bridge**
- **Gods and Monsters - Homer's Odyssey**
- **Muse of Fire**
- **Othello: Preparing for Performance**
- **Shakespeare In Italy: Land of Fortune**
- **Shakespeare in Italy: Land of Love**
- **Shakespeare's Sonnets**
- **"Surviving Surviving": Irving Roth**
- **The Lively Arts: Tennessee Williams**
- **The Making of *Julius Caesar***
- **To Kill a Mockingbird at 50**

## ESSAYS

Digital Theatre+ **Essays** are written by leading practitioners and academics who share their research, knowledge and insight on a range of topics and also offer students further reading suggestions.

Our essays can be used in any number of ways, including:

- For research
- As examples of informative and argumentative writing.



Romeo and Juliet: Historical Context Workbook – The Globe

## DT+ ESSAYS

- ***As You Like It: Compare and Contrast***
- ***Comparing Comedy: Love's Labour's Lost and Much Ado About Nothing***
- ***Othello, Elizabethan England and the Islamic World***



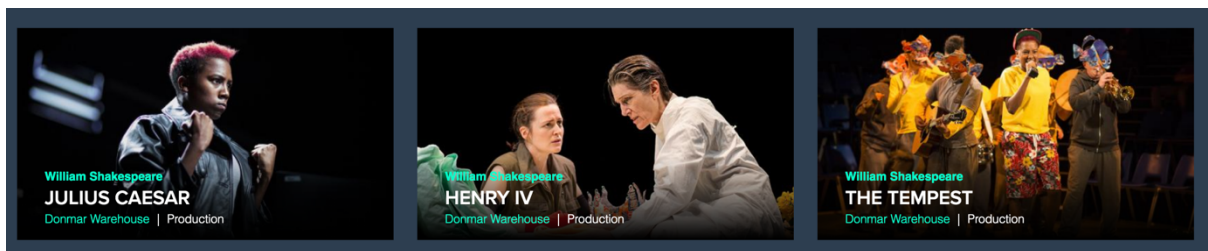
- [Remembering Desdemona](#)
  - [Romeo and Juliet: Historical Context Workbook](#)
  - [Theatre Reviewing & The Stage Archive](#)
  - [True West in Context](#)
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## GUIDES

Our '**A Guide To...**' series provides specific teaching information, including detailed examples of how to apply particular teaching tools in the classroom, and how to use our resources alongside your teaching requirements. A few specific guides to refer to when planning your lessons are:

- **How to Read, Watch and Write About Plays: *The Tempest***
- **Teaching *Antigone* with DT+**



The Donmar Shakespeare Trilogy, all-female versions of **Henry IV**, **Julius Caesar**, and **The Tempest**, are set in women's prison, with the prisoners putting on each of the plays. Each guide listed below contains ready-made lesson plans and activities for you to use.

- **Exploring the Director's Process**
- **Henry IV: Education Pack**
- **Julius Caesar: Education Pack**
- **Origins of the Trilogy: Exploring All Female Casting**
- **Prison Context: Education Pack**
- **The Tempest: Education Pack**



## GRAPHIC NOVELS

**Graphic Novels** can be used when studying a given text. Published by SelfMadeHero, each of the 20 graphic novels available on DT+ tell the same story in illustrated form, providing a different and engaging twist on a familiar script. We have 14 Shakespeare plays and 6 novels for you to choose from.



Pride and Prejudice – SelfMadeHero ©

Graphic novels provide an excellent alternative to students who need to read a shortened version of a story, or who thrive with illustrations which help propel the story visually.

## GRAPHIC NOVELS

- [Crime and Punishment](#)
- [Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde](#)
- [Manga Shakespeare](#)
- [Pride and Prejudice](#)
- [The Complete Don Quixote](#)
- [The Picture of Dorian Gray](#)
- [The Trial](#)



## AUDIO THEATRE

We have 176 [audio theatre productions](#) for students to listen to from L.A. Theatre Works. These can provide you with several teaching options:

- Students can listen to the play as an alternative to reading it. Sometimes a text isn't available for reading, but you can listen to it instead.
  - These also provide an excellent alternative for students who struggle with their reading skills – they can listen to the story and still use their imaginations to envision what the scene looks like.
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