



Reading in **PERFORMING ARTS**

Disciplinary literacy is defined as the confluence of content knowledge, experiences, and skills merged with the ability to read, write, listen, speak, think critically and perform in a way that is meaningful within the context of a given field.

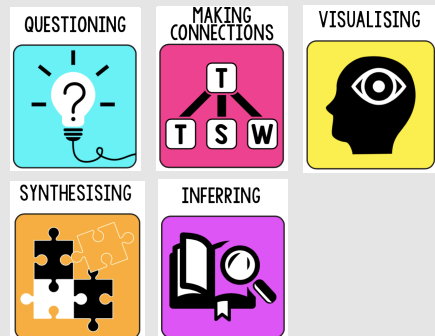
*In the arts, the idea of what constitutes texts needs to be broadened to include even more diverse modes of communication such as paintings, drawings, photographs, sculptures, dance movements, theatre productions and musical performances (Moxley 2012).

? INTERPRET MEANING

A large part of understanding the performing arts is being able to infer and interpret the meaning behind a performance / lyrics and come to decisions about possible intentions. Reading with the intention of interpreting the meaning behind a written text supports students' ability to interpret performances and lyrics in the same way:

- Ask questions. Ask 'why?' more than 'what?'
- Think laterally and creatively about the purpose behind the work.
- Find underlying messages that evolve as a theme.
- Make connections between other texts, concepts and personal thoughts.

- Poetry
- Fiction
- Lyrics
- *Arts texts'

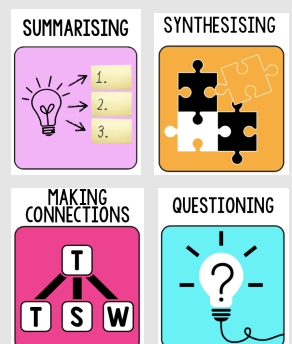


🌍 CULTURAL CAPITAL

Being able to critically evaluate music and drama stems from being able to form and discuss an opinion based on evidence or personal thoughts. This is also deeply developed through an understanding of cultural capital. Through reading texts related to current affairs; fact-based cross-curricular articles; biographies of performing arts personalities, students develop cultural capital and learn to critically evaluate, make links and form their own opinions:

- Use reading as a way to make connections and understand real world issues related to arts.
- Read nonfiction critically. Pay attention to the source and reliability.
- Summarise and synthesise ideas.

- News articles
- Cross-curricular texts
- Biographies
- *Arts texts



🎵 READING MUSIC AND SCRIPTS

DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

- Specialised terms such as overture, gait, DR P SMITH.
- Culturally specific words that have specialised meanings from languages other than English, such as adagio and commedia dell-arte.
- 2/4 and 4/4 designate rhythms, and many symbols (#, ♪) have specialised meaning.

DEMANDS AND STRATEGIES

- Make meaning from every word, symbol, and their relations.
- Use visuals and practical demonstrations to support understanding.
- Focus on repetition and practice.
- Get more than just the 'gist'. Focus on the details.

- Sheet music
- Scripts
- Demonstrations
- Tutorials
- *Arts texts

