

John Merrick, the Elephant Man:

John Merrick (1862–1890) was a man born with severe physical deformities that made him look very different from others. Because of this, he faced **discrimination and was treated as a curiosity** in shows and sideshows.

Later, he was helped by **Dr. Frederick Treves**, a doctor at the London Hospital, who gave him care, friendship, and a safer place to live. Merrick showed that despite his appearance, he was **intelligent, gentle, and kind**.

He became known as the **Elephant Man**, and his story is remembered as a lesson in **compassion, dignity, and understanding people who are different**.

Witches in UK History

1. **Belief in witches** was very strong in the UK from the 15th to 18th centuries.
2. **Witches were thought to have magical powers**, often linked to the Devil.
3. **Witch hunts** occurred when communities feared misfortune like crop failure or disease
4. **Witch trials** were often unfair, with accusations based on superstition, gossip, or personal grudges.
5. **Torture and tests** were sometimes used to “prove” someone was a witch.
6. **Executions** could include hanging, burning, or pressing, depending on the region and period.



YEAR 9 Drama KO TERM 1

Drama techniques

Cross-cutting: where the action moves **back and forth between two or more scenes** that are happening at the same time.

Narration is when a character or a separate voice **tells the audience what is happening** in the story. It helps explain events, give background information, or share a character's thoughts, without the action happening on stage.

Ensemble acting when a group of performers works together to create a unified and balanced performance, where the success of the group is more important than any single actor.

Choral speech is when a group of performers works together to speak a piece of text as a single voice. It is used to add dramatic effect by controlling the volume, tone, pitch, and pace of the words to express meaning and emotion

Forum theatre is an interactive performance where the audience can stop the action and step in to change the story.

THE BROTHERS GRIMM

Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm were two German brothers who lived in the **1800s**. They are famous for collecting and publishing **folk tales and fairy tales** that had been passed down for generations.

Key points:

Their stories were often **dark and scary**, much more than the versions we hear today.

They collected tales like **Cinderella, Snow White, Hansel and Gretel, and Rapunzel**.

The Grimms wanted to **preserve German culture and traditions** through these stories.

Their versions often included **moral lessons** about right and wrong.

Over time, their stories were **adapted to be kinder and more child-friendly**.

The Grimm Brothers' work is important because it **influenced storytelling, literature, and modern fairy tales** that we still enjoy today.

GRIMM TALES BY CAROL ANN DUFFY

Carol Ann Duffy's *Grimm Tales* is a **modern retelling of classic Grimm Brothers' fairy tales** in poetry form. She keeps the **dark and dramatic elements** of the original stories but adds **humour, modern language, and new twists** to make them exciting and engaging for today's readers.

HANSEL AND GRETEL

In Duffy's version, **Hansel and Gretel** are **abandoned by their parents** and find themselves lost in the forest. They discover a **candy-covered house** that belongs to a **wicked witch**. The witch traps them with the intention of **eating them**, but the clever children **outsmart her** and escape.

THE MAGIC TABLE, THE DONKEY AND THE CUDGEL IN THE SACK

The story is about **three magical objects**: a **table that provides endless food**, a **donkey that gives gold coins**, and a **cudgel that beats wrongdoers**.

A poor man acquires these magical items, which help him gain wealth and justice. He **loses the items** through trickery or carelessness but eventually **regains them**.

The **cudgel punishes evil people**, the donkey provides riches, and the table gives endless food, ensuring the man can live happily.

The tale is about **cleverness, reward for the good, and punishment for the wicked**, common themes in Grimm fairy tales.