

How to Write a Theatre Performance Review

Theatre is undoubtedly the oldest branch of performing arts. It has existed since the dawn of man, from a time when humans had the tendency of story-telling. Theater makes use of many forms of performing arts which combines speech, gesture, music, and dance to create a representational illusion for the entertainment of the audience. The theatre these days, does not only comprises of tragedy and comedy, but also touches some scientific subjects like the IVF or the infertility.

If you have a task to write a theatre performance review, it is better to first familiarize yourself with the work you need to review. In order to get a full grasp of the play, go through it more than once or better do some research on the play's historical context. With that known, you will not just get the basis for the review, but it will also keep you well-informed while attending the performance. Be prepared to make a few mental notes during the performance which will assist you in writing the review. With that you are all set to attend the performance. Here are some more instructions that will help you on the way.

- Start your review with a catchy statement so that you can grasp the attention of the reader. For instance, you can start with a quote or perhaps some list of items from the play.

- It is always better to provide a brief summary on the idea of the play or a bit of history about the playwright. You can also include the time when the play was originally written. This is needed when the play you are writing the review on, is a classic.

- Mention the name of the director and discuss the approach he has used in the play. The play could be staged in a traditional or with a new approach; all depends on the idea of the director.

- Then is the turn to review the performances. Here again you can mention the approach of the actors by giving acknowledgement to the ones whose performances were really breathtaking.

- Also write a few words about the set, costumes and lighting. Discuss all these things in relation to the play whether they were really supporting the spirit of the play, or not. You can further mention the importance of these items to the performance.

- Your reader will be reading the review to make their mind for watching the play so guide them nicely. Elaborate with reasons why the play is a must watch. Tell them exactly why you think that the performance was great.

- Include the times of performances, where the performances are being held and how long performances will run.

- You can even add some logistical information to your review, telling your readers about the ticket prices or the contact information for the theatre.

Write a review with all these tips in mind and it will hardly go unnoticed. You can also be creative by adding some more information, but this is how a standard theatre performance review is written.