

LESSON NOTE ON LITERATURE-IN-ENGLISH WEEK 2

SUBJECT: English Language

TOPIC: Drama: meaning and types of drama

CLASS: JS1

WEEK: 2

DEFINITION OF DRAMA

The word '*drama*' comes from a Greek word which means to 'action'.

Drama is intended to replicate human behaviour and action in the midst of tragedy and everyday life. It is written in **acts and scenes** and the person who writes plays is called a **dramatist or a playwright**.

Drama brings a story to life before our eyes, the story of a play or drama is told through dialogue and action and is combined with the setting that the audience perceives essentially from scenery and props. Knowing about these elements can help you increase in value and converse plays that are seen and read.

Types of drama

There are three main types of drama:

- Tragedy
 - Comedy
 - Tragicomedy
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1. **Tragedy:** this is a serious play that ends sadly. Something bad or tragic usually happens to the main character (the protagonist). Examples are: The Gods Are Not To Blame by Ola Rotimi, Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare.
 2. **Comedy:** this is a play that is intended to make people laugh or to make them feel happy. It can also be a television programme or film. An example is The Lion and the Jewel by Wole Soyinka.
 3. **Tragicomedy:** this is a play that combines the features of comedy and tragedy. An example is The Winter's Tale by Shakespeare.