Theatre Styles Assignment

For this assignment you will be required to research a style of theatre. You will become knowledgeable in that style of theatre through computer and book research. Once you have gathered all of the information, you will put it into a visual presentation of your choice. You can make a PowerPoint, a brochure, or a live presentation. You will then present it to the class to teach them about that style. In addition, you will be choosing a scene from that theatre style to perform. Just like any other scene, you will be required to memorize and do the paperwork for it. I will only be asking for objectives, obstacles and units this time around. I would like you to choose a scene from one of the most prominent playwrights of that time/style. This will give your peers a better understanding of each style of theatre.

There will be a maximum of 2 partnerships per style. That means a max of 4 individuals (2 pairs) will be exploring a specific style. (We don’t want to see 15 Expressionist scenes!)

You may choose from the following styles of theatre:

Commedia Dell’Arte (famous troupes – Gelosi and Confidenti)
Expressionism (Frank Wedekind, Eugene O’Neill)
Theatre of the Absurd (Samuel Beckett, Eugene Ionesco)
Farce (John Poole)
Melodrama (Jean-Jacques Rousseau)
Site-Specific Theatre (Litmus Theatre, Lucia Neare’s Theatrical Wonders, bluemouth inc.)
Theatre of the Oppressed (Augusto Boal)
Shakespeare
Musical (Sondheim, Gershwin)
Classicism (Jean Racine, Moliere)
Realism/Naturalistic (Henrik Ibsen, The Cherry Orchard)
Modern/Contemporary – American (Marsha Norman)
Modern/Contemporary – Canadian (Judith Thompson)
Romanticism (Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Friedrich Schiller)
Epic theatre (Brecht)
Street Theatre (clowning)

Evaluation

Research/Presentation (/60)
- Neat, Clean and Organized /5
- Definition of the Theatre Style /5
- Prominent Playwrights/Companies in the Style /5
- History of the Style /15
- Significance of the Style /15
- Overall Presentation of Ideas (clear, concise and informed) /15

Scene Work (/60)
- Script Work (objectives, obstacles, units) /15
- Character /15
- Demonstration of Style (does it illustrate the theatre style?) /15
- Overall Production/Performance /15

TOTAL /120