

Bitesize KS3 English Literature – Shakespeare

The Tempest – Performance analysis – The Big Scene transcript

TITLE:

THE
BIG
SCENE

PRESENTER

Hello and welcome to The Big Scene. We're at rehearsals for [CAPTION-THE TEMPEST] The Tempest. It's Act One, Scene One; [CAPTION-ACT 1 SCENE1] one of the toughest opening fixtures in any production. The challenge facing the [CAPTION-DIRECTOR] director is to convincingly create a ship in a storm on the stage. There are many options but will any of them actually look any good? It's a tough ask but will he pull it off on this team's budget?

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DIRECTOR

Start with the fingers.

PRESENTER (OFF SCREEN)

And they've come flying out of the traps with a classic sound scape. They're really working as a team. Great formation. It's cheap but impressive. A bit like me. But wait Who's doing the acting? They've been left completely exposed stage right.

Great effort with the human storm but they simply don't have the squad to pull it off.

PRESENTER

And he knows it. Oh dear, dear me. It's back to basics lads.

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BOATSWAIN

A plague upon the howling. It is louder than the weather or our office.

PRESENTER (OFF SCREEN)

Aha, but maybe not that basic guys. They are putting in one hell of

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a performance but without any kind of storm to back it up, I'm not sure the audience is going to get behind them.

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BOATSWAIN

Yet again what do you here? Shall we go and drown?

PRESENTER

I couldn't have put it better myself. Well I probably could have actually because I'm known as something of a wordsmith. But that's not the point. These boys are drowning out there! He's got to change something and fast!

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PRESENTER (OFF SCREEN)

He's asking a lot of his team here but looks like they're stepping up to the plate.

MASTER

Boatswain!

BOATSWAIN

Here Master. What cheer?

MASTER

Good, speak to the mariners. Fall to it yarely. Unless we run ourselves aground...

PRESENTER (OFF SCREEN)

Oh dear. This idiot's gone and spoilt it for everyone. What a pity.

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Oh yes and now they're finding their feet. It's about all the elements, the performance, the lighting and the sound working together to make this a storm to remember.

MASTER

Boatswain!

BOATSWAIN

Here Master. What cheer?

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MASTER

Good, speak to the mariners. Fall to it yarely and if we run ourselves aground: bestir, bestir.

PRESENTER (OFF SCREEN)

Oh but look here. This guy still wants more out of his players. He's not going to be happy with anything less than 110 percent. Neither will the audience. There's another twist in this scene yet.

GONZALO

The wills above be done! But I would fain die a dry death.

DIRECTOR

That's it. Yeah. Now you're getting it.

PRESENTER (OFF SCREEN)

Oh and he is not happy with the boss' decision. Surely he went too far.

PRESENTER

Well it's an early bath for him and the scene ends in a total washout. Disaster.

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