DRAMA CRITIQUE GUIDELINES

You are required to write one critique of a LIVE theatrical performance PER SEMESTER. {That means 2 (TWO) per school year.}
A critique is a 5 paragraph essay, describing several theatrical elements you observe. The following outline will help you organize your paragraphs.

1. **Introduction** (1 paragraph)
   a. Play’s *Title* as well as the *Date & Place* of performance
   b. Your expectations before going to the play.
   c. First impressions
   d. Any comments about the plot/story
   e. Lead into the rest of the critique
      i. Give us an idea of what you thought of the play

2. **Body** (3-5 paragraphs)

   **Acting** *(Identify & describe two performers. - save your program!)*
   - Believability
   - (Did the actors commit to their roles?)
   - Expression
   - Volume
   - Compatibility
   (Were they right for the part?)

   **Costumes** *(Describe 2 specific examples)*
   - Accuracy
   - Coloring

   **Music** *(If you see a musical, choose 2 aspects to DESCRIBE)*
   - Did it fit the mood?
   - Singing (if any- give specific examples)
   - Dancing (if any- give specific examples)

   **Technical** *(Choose 2 specific aspects you observed. Describe in detail.)*
   - Lighting
   - Sound
   - Sets
   - Props

3. **Conclusion** (1 paragraph)
   f. Confirm or deny your initial expectations
   g. Brief review (revisit something you either really liked or disliked)
   h. Recommendation

Format:
➢ Critiques must be **typed**, following appropriate **MLA FORMAT**.
➢ Approximate length should be **one and a half pages** (DOUBLE SPACED).
➢ Use 12 pt., TIMES NEW ROMAN font.
➢ **Margins** should measure **one inch** on all four sides .
➢ Remember to be a good audience member.
➢ Be on time. Listen quietly. Applaud and/or laugh when it is appropriate.
➢ You may only critique productions with actors intermediate school age or older.
➢ **ALL CRITIQUES ARE DUE TWO WEEKS AFTER YOU SEE EACH PLAY.**