



**SWINBURNE**  
SENIOR SECONDARY COLLEGE

# Theatre Studies HOLIDAY HOMEWORK Year 12, 2019



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<b>Work required in preparation for start of 2019:</b>	Read through the script of AWAY (provided) and attempt all questions on the sheet. This will help us make a good strong start to the 2019 Theatre Studies program.
<b>Due date:</b>	First day of Term 1 – it will form the basis of some small group and class discussion.



## VACATION HOMEWORK - AWAY 2019

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING OVER THE VACATION.**

***This homework will be the first piece of CourseWORK for 2019 and will form the basis of some of initial discussion early in the Planning Stage of the production process.***

1. Thoroughly read through the script of 'Away' (provided).
2. Complete a detailed character description and analysis for each of the 8 main characters (Tom, Meg, Roy, Coral, Gwen, Jim, Vic and Harry).
3. Where in Australia do you imagine the main characters live?
4. Create a back-story for each of the main characters above based on any information provided in the script and your imagination.
5. What function does each of these characters have within the structure of the play?
6. Draw up a chart outlining who is directly and indirectly connected to who.
7. Draw up a list and name each scene in the play, describing its location in as much detail as you can.
8. Draw up a detailed properties<sup>1</sup> list for each of the above scenes.
9. Draw up a list of all sounds/effects that are directly referenced or may be implied in each scene.
10. Outline how the style of the play<sup>2</sup> might impact and influence ideas for design (set, props, costume, make-up, lighting and sound)

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<sup>1</sup> Properties: Objects used on stage that are manipulated by a character, e.g. a suit case is brought on and a character sits on the case. Props are often described as personal props and stage props. A personal prop is generally brought on stage by a character and then used, whereas a stage prop is already on stage and a character at some point handles it.

<sup>2</sup> The style of the play is principally Epic Theatre (Brechtian) in form - in fact it's considered to be one of the best examples of the Australian use of Epic Theatre. If you are unfamiliar with this style of theatre do some research over the break about Brecht and his theatre.

11. The play is set in the Summer of 1968 in Australia, at the height of our involvement in the Vietnam War - do some preliminary research on the impact and effect of the war back in Australia in the late 1960's.
12. How might this contextual research influence ideas for design possibilities<sup>3</sup>?
13. Should we use Gow's alternate ending to his play? If so, discuss in detail why. If not, discuss in detail why not.

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<sup>3</sup> Set, Properties, Costume, Make-up, Lighting and Sound.









