**Elements of Drama**

**Drama -is written to be performed**

**-include elements of fiction such as plot, conflict, and setting**

**Playwright -is the author of the play**

**Script -is the written form of a play**

**Acts -are the units of the action in a drama**

**Scenes -smaller parts of an act**

**Characterization -is the playwright’s technique of creating believable characters through their actions and their words**

**Dialogue -are the words characters say, much of what is learned about characters, setting, and events is revealed through dialogue (conversations among characters)**

**Monologue -is a long, uninterrupted speech that is spoken by a single character often revealing private thoughts and feelings**

**Stage directions -are bracketed instructions that give information about sound effects, actions, sets, and the character’s gestures or emotions**

**Set -is the term used for the scenery on stage that suggests the time and place of the action**

**Props -are small portable items that the actors use to make their actions look realistic**

**Types of Dramas**

**Comedy -is a form of drama that has a happy ending**

 **-written both for entertainment or to point out faults in a society**

**Tragedy -distinguishing feature are the events that lead to the death or downfall of the main character (often a person of significance, such as a king or heroic figure)**

**Drama -is often used to describe plays that address serious subjects**