

## Drama – Historical Events

### Context of 911

On September 11, 2001, 19 militants associated with the Islamic extremist group al Qaeda hijacked four airplanes and carried out suicide attacks against targets in the United States. Two of the planes were flown into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, a third plane hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Almost 3,000 people were killed during the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

### Who carried out 911

The hijackers were Islamic terrorists from Saudi Arabia and several other Arab nations. Reportedly financed by the al Qaeda terrorist organization of Saudi fugitive Osama bin Laden, they were allegedly acting in retaliation for America's support of Israel, its involvement in the Persian Gulf War and its continued military presence in the Middle East.

The 19 terrorists easily smuggled box-cutters and knives through security at three East Coast airports and boarded four early-morning flights bound for California, chosen because the planes were loaded with fuel for the long transcontinental journey. Soon after takeoff, the terrorists commandeered the four planes and took the controls, transforming ordinary passenger jets into guided missiles.



### Key Vocabulary and Drama Techniques



**Voice Collage:** A Voice Collage in Drama is a technique where multiple voices are layered, overlapped, or arranged in a structure to create a dramatic effect.

**Placards and Signs:** Written signs or projections highlight key messages or events.

**Multi-roling:** Actors play multiple characters

**Verbatim:** Using the spoken words of real people in a drama piece

**Chorus:** Multiple people speaking at the same time

**Physical theatre:** Making shapes and objects using your body

**Islamophobia:** When people share fear, hatred, or unfair treatment towards Muslims or the religion of Islam.

**Terrorism:** When people use violence, fear, or threats to try to achieve political, religious or social goals. Terrorist often target innocent people to get attention or force a government to change something.

### The impact the attacks had on people

The 9/11 attacks had a huge emotional and social impact on people around the world. Thousands of people died, and many families lost loved ones. People felt shocked, scared, and confused. It changed how many people saw the world. Airport security became much stricter. Before 9/11, people could walk up to the gate to say goodbye. After the attacks, fully body scans were introduced, no liquids over 100ml, and more checks on bags and people.

The government introduced new laws to watch for possible terrorist threats. There were more cameras in public places and more checking on personal data.

The U.S. and other countries started wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. These wars lasted for years, affected millions of people and caused even more loss and division