Writing Project # 12

Writing a critique of a play

The class will be assigned groups of 4. As a class we will watch the musical *Shrek*. You will review the entire production, but each member of your group will be required to give special attention and consideration to one aspect of the show. Decide which member of your group will be responsible for the following:

1. Writing
2. Acting
3. Directing
4. Staging (set, lights, costumes, makeup, technical execution)

Requirements:

1. MLA form
2. **The entire critique must be between 2-4 pages**
3. Follow the below criteria for each aspect of the critique
4. Due Friday, October 29th in TEAMS

**Writing:**

Did the work have,

1. The necessary elements of its genre?
2. A general appeal wide enough to interest most audience members?
3. Individuality and freshness of style?
4. Clear organization, so that events rise to a strong climax?
5. Clearly drawn, believable characters who are able to keep the audience engaged?
6. Clear and expressive dialogue that draws the audience into the plot?

**Acting :**

Evaluate the actor’s performance by asking,

1. Was each character believable? Was eah character true to the intent of the production?
2. Was the acting spontaneous? Seem genuine?
3. How did the actors project visually and verbally? Did the communicate with clarity, control and conviction?
4. Were the quality , interpretation, and projection of the voice suitable for each character?
5. Were gestures and movements motivates , clear, varied and appropriate?
6. Was there a good balance of emotion and control? Were reactions true? Were reactions genuine?
7. Was there teamwork among the cast?

**Directing:**

Did the directing,

1. Were all aspects unified and faithful to the author’s purpose?
2. Did rhythm and tempo provide the right mood?
3. Was scene composition handled effectively and smoothly with proper emphasis on balance, variety , and contrast?
4. Was there a good balance of aesthetic distance and empathy?
5. Did each actor suit the part he or she was playing?

**Set and Costume Design:**

1. Did the set design provide appropriate background and mood?
2. Were the costumes and makeup in harmony with the character, mood, time period, and style of the work?
3. Were the lights, sound, special effects etc., handled effectively?