Definition – Drama

Drama is a literary form involving parts written for actors to perform. It is a Greek word meaning "action", drawn from the Greek verb, "to do". A dramatic text includes dramatis personae, scene descriptions and stage directions.

In drama, characters talk to one another through dialogues. Monologues also appear very often when only one character speaks at the stage.

* **Three Unities**

Older plays traditionally followed one of the classical poetic ‘laws’, one of them being the three unities: **unity of plot, unity of place, and unity of time**. The unities mean that a play should have only one single plot line, which ought to take place in a single location and within one day.

* **Drama structure (Freytag´s Pyramid)**

**Act 1** contains all introductory information: the main characters are introducedand it serves as exposition.

**Act 2** develops the main conflict causing some complication of an action.

**Act 3** contains a crisis; the plot reaches its climax.

**Act 4** creates new tension and delays the unknotting.

**Act 5** offers a solution to the conflict. Tragedies end in a catastrophe (death of the protagonist), comedies are resolved (wedding).

