

THE ROLE OF THE COSTUME DESIGNER

A Costume Designer is responsible for designing the clothing worn by performers in a stage production or film.

The purpose of the costumes is not only to clothe the performer but to communicate their character to the audience and reflect the style, mood and setting of the production.



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TASK: READ THE POEM

The Highwayman

By Alfred Noyes

The wind was a torrent of darkness among the gusty trees.
The moon was a ghostly galleon tossed upon cloudy seas.
The road was a ribbon of moonlight over the purple moor,
And the highwayman came riding—
 Riding—riding—
The highwayman came riding, up to the old inn-door.

He'd a French cocked-hat on his forehead, a bunch of lace at his chin,
A coat of the claret velvet, and breeches of brown doe-skin.
They fitted with never a wrinkle. His boots were up to the thigh.
And he rode with a jewelled twinkle,
 His pistol butts a-twinkle,
His rapier hilt a-twinkle, under the jewelled sky.



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TASK 1: WORD ASSOCIATION GAME

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TASK:

Write down as many different words you can think of relating to the key words

Key words:

- **Highwayman**

- **Claret**

- **Purple Moor**

Time: 5 minutes

TASK 1: WORD ASSOCIATION GAME

EXAMPLE:

- Highwayman

Bandit, Thief, Ruffian, Gangster, Pirate, Hoodlum, Thug, Criminal, Hooligan, Bully, Underworld, Dark, Gloomy, Mist, Hazy, Smoke, Fire, Candle, Lantern, Shadow, Trick of the light, Deception, Magician.....

- Claret

Blood, Garnet, Ruby, Crimson, Scarlet, Rose, Romance, Heart, Love, Blush, Flaming, Wine, Drunk, Drunk in Love, Intoxicated, Poison, Venom, Snake, Snakeskin, Scales, Shiny, Polished, Reflective.....

- Purple Moor

Purple Rain, Violet Fields, Royal Heath, Plum Meadow, Lavender Grass, Aubergine Prairie, Dark Landscape, Black land, Desert, Abandoned, Discarded, Isolated, Lonely, Cold, Sharp, Angular.....

TASK 2: DESIGN CONCEPT

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TASK:

Write down 5
Design Concepts for
'The Highwayman'

Key areas to think
about:

- **Time period**

- **Place**

- **Genre**

- **Mood/ Theme**

Time: 5 minutes

TASK 2: DESIGN CONCEPT

EXAMPLE:

Concept	Crimson King	Romantic Dandy	Night Rider	Stand & Deliver	Modern Hero
Time Period	18 Century Autumn Afternoon	19th century Summer Dusk	Other-worldly Winter Night	1980s All seasons All times	Modern, 2021 Autumn/ Winter Day/ Night
Place	England Hampstead Heath Countryside	England Devonshire Moors Countryside	Desert Surreal Landcape	England London City/ Urban	England London City/ Urban
Genre	War Historical Period	Romance Adventure	Journey Fantasy	Fashionable Abstract	Crime Drama Realistic
Mood/ Theme	Regal Bloody Triumphant Action	Lothario Libertine Raconteur Stylish Romp	Solitary Journey Concealed Identity Secretive Cold, Dark, Lonely Beautiful	Music Video style, Avant-garde, Camp, Theatrical Gender Subversion	Gritty, Violent, Gangs, Thieves, Youth

TASK 3: COSTUME DESIGN IDEAS

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TASK:

Write down as many words relating the costume in the time given.

Key areas to think about:

- **Character/ Personality/ Style**
- **Colour Palette**
- **Shape/ Silhouette**
- **Texture/ Fabric**

Time: 5 minutes

TASK 3: COSTUME DESIGN IDEAS

	Crimson King	Romantic Dandy	Night Rider	Stand & Deliver	Modern Hero
Character/ Personality/ Style	Regal, Powerful, Comanding, Cavalier, Uniform, Brigadier, Insignia	Dandy, Foppish, Romantic, Stylish, Lothario, Libertine, Raconteur, Feminine, Carefree	Mysterious, Ghostly, Other-worldly, Loney, Solitary, Hidden Face, Masked, Cloaked	Theatrical, Camp, Flourish, Pirate, Gender Subverting, Fashionable, Extravgant, Loud	Youthful, Petty Thief, Carrys knife, Steals Iphones, Part of Gang, Rides a Motorbike
Colour Palette	Crimson, Scarlet, Gold, Rich, Warm, Vibrant, Saturated, Vivid, Loud, Luxurious	Claret Red, Pink, Blush, Romantic, Soft, Fresh Irridescent, Over-Exposed	Camoflauge with Landcape, Cold Dark, Black, Grey, Purple, Natural, Organic, Sombre	Loud, Vibrant, Rainbow, Metallics, Pearly, Petrol, Acids, Intense	Urban, Grey, Black, Navy, Faded, Monotone, Neutrals, Logos, Neon details
Shape/ Silhouette	18th Century, Powerful, Spacious, Expansive, Hard, Magestic, Sculptural	19th Century, Languid, Fluid, Sweeping, Floppy, Soft, Touchable, Smooth, Loose, Graceful	Hard to define, Fluid, Layered, Wild, Flowing, Conceals Body, Sweeping, Always in Motion	1980s, Exaggerated, New Romantics, Dressing Up, Strong, Angular, Oversized,	Contemporary, Tracksuits, Oversized, Baggy, Hoods, Matching gang, Recognisable
Texture/ Fabric	Velvet, Leather, Lace, Luxurious, Lush, Dense, Billowy, Detailed, Patterned, Trims	Lace, Silk, Soft, Floaty, Frilly, Frothy, Flowery, Natural, Sleek, Shiny, Shimmery, Airy	Slippery, Ribbons Reflective, Shadowy, Natural, Textured, Pattern/print taken from nature, Structural	Shiny, Sequined, Stretch Fabric, Patent, Man-made, New materials, Unusual materials, Avant-garde	Jersey, Sweatshirt, Sportswear, Worn-in, Rough, Coarse, Rips, Modern man-made Zips, Toggles etc

FURTHER TASKS

RESEARCH:

- Collect research images of character/style, colour palette, silhouette/shape, texture/fabric
- Create moodboards to collate your research

DESIGN:

- Respond to your research with different design ideas
- Try different approaches to sketching and collaging to create your designs

PRESENTATION:

- Choose your best design and draw your final Illustration complete with fabric samples, references and notes
- Present your final design in a short presentation

REALISATION:

- Create a 3D mock up of costume using paper or found materials
- Use own clothing, costume store etc to create your design