

Drama - Study of text in contemporary, cultural contexts

Design concepts and directing: *Refugee Boy*

Downloadable resource



Extract from Scene 21

Ruth They've all come. I knew they would. Word's got out.

Mustapha Course it has. We did the work. We did the work.

The "LET THEM STAY. DEPORTATION NO WAY" noise gets louder and beneath it a group is getting louder singing an excerpt from "Here Comes the Sun".

Mustapha Um. Hi. Hello. Thank you. We stand on these court steps to appeal for justice. On behalf of our friend, Ale. And his father. In that building men and women with strange accents and funny clothes will try and say that Alem should go back to the country where his mother died. Where his mother was murdered.



Scene 22

Mr Kelo Yes

Man Hello.

Mr Kelo Yes

Man I am Tewdros from EAST.

Mr Kelo I'm no longer a member.

Man Mr Kelo...

Mr Kelo Leave. Me. Alone. GO AWAY.



Extract from Scene 23

Ruth continues.

As you know we have organised this assembly because we want to send a message to the people who make the rules; the politicians, the judges, the media. This march has been organised to let them know that Alem Kelo is our brother. We are all brothers and sisters.



Scene 24

Man Beurocracy and orders: they make us jump through hoops, they strip us of our, of our, dignity as if they are the arbiters of... We understand, Mr Kelo. We must do what we must do. You and Alem must do what you must do.

Mr Kelo *(detecting something)* What can you tell me about my son?

Man Great danger, Mr Kelo. What happened to your wife is sad. So sad.

Mr Kelo *(understands what is happening)* We gave everything to the cause of peace. Everything. And now we lose everything? What have I done?



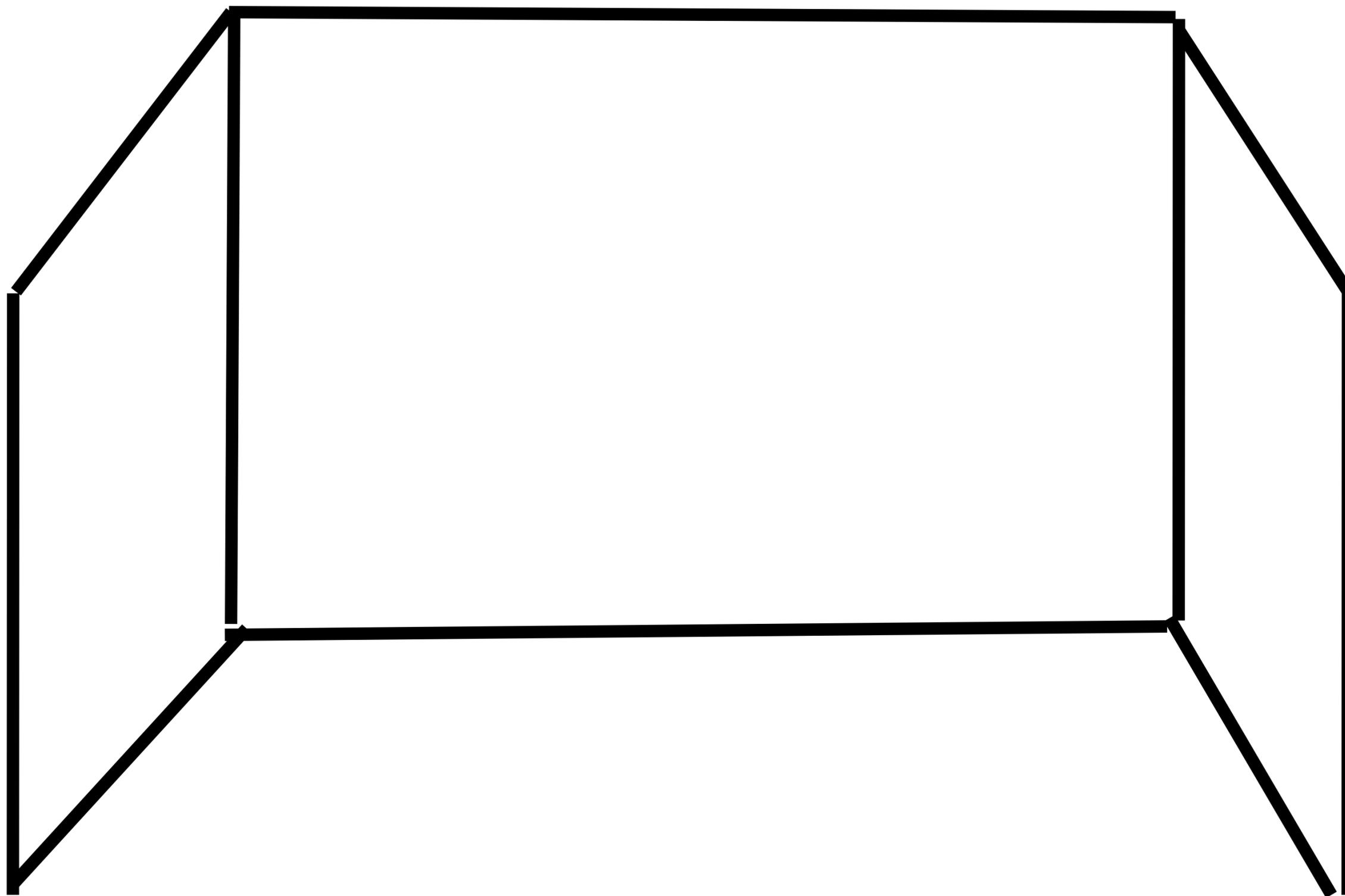
Scene 25

Alem speaking into microphone.

Alem My name is Alem Kelo and I can't really understand why I am here. In my homeland they are fighting over a border, a border that is mainly dust and rocks. I really can't understand why these people are fighting over this border. I haven't come to England to be a problem. I didn't leave the land I love so much to be so cold. But what can I do?



Set design template



References

Slide 2,3,4,5,6 - © Benjamin Zephaniah, adapted for the stage by Lemn Sissay, 2013, Refugee Boy, Bloomsbury Publishing Plc

