The Task

To write a 200-300 word analysis of the split scene you created to show the differences between the experience of men and women in WW1. Use specific examples from your scene to support your answer.

Focus Questions:

Use the following questions to help you to analyse your scene.

- Outline what you wanted your audience to think about.
- Provide a brief overview of the scene you created.
- Explain how a specific action or set of actions enabled your audience to understand these differences.
- How do these actions communicate differences between the men and women’s experiences?
- How did the convention of split scene enable you to communicate this to your audience?

EXAMPLE SCENE DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS:

Within our performance, we wanted our audience to consider the differences between women’s experiences at home and male’s experiences on the front line. The scene that we created used the convention of split scene: upstage we portrayed a series of actions that depicted the women’s experiences at home while downstage we portrayed the experience of the men in battle. In the scene, one female character repeatedly performed the action of writing a letter, lifting the envelop slowly to lick the seal before folding the envelope closed and holding it to her chest tightly. This action enabled the audience to understand the significance of these letters in maintaining a relationship with someone on the front line while also highlighting, through its repetition, that letters were frequently sent but very few received. This was performed alongside the men downstage who repeatedly performed the action of getting shot in the chest in cannon in slow motion. We decided to use slow motion to enable the audience to watch the moment of death close enough to understand the brutality of war. The use of split scene enabled the audience to view both of these moments side by side, highlighting both the physical and experiential differences between the men and women of WW1.