Musical Theatre!

Task:
In a group of no more than 3 people, create a polished handout or power point presentation that outlines any musical in existence. The handout will be marked on thoroughness, specificity of information, and presentation (proper spelling and grammar, presentation). All members of the group must contribute equally to this assignment. Enjoy – this is a chance to delve into the land of musicals and learn all you need to know about it!

Include:
- TWO (2) pages, printed back-and-front on a single paper
- Identify who: (6 marks)
  - wrote the dialogue
  - wrote the lyrics
  - composed the score
  - wrote the original script (if the play is adapted from an original or published play)
  - wrote the book (if the play is adapted from a book)
  - directed/wrote the movie (if they play is adapted from a movie)
- A brief but specific plot summary, including: (5 marks)
  - who: main characters
  - what: the major conflict (but don’t give away the ending!)
  - where/when: the setting, time, mood, social circumstances
  - ***write as if you are writing a blurb for the back of the book or for a newspaper advertisement
- A brief but specific history of the original production, including: (2 marks)
  - who produced, directed, and starred in the first production of the musical
  - where the musical was performed (theatre, city, country); Broadway or off-Broadway?
- 5 interesting facts about the musical, for example: (5 marks)
  - key actors (who have performed in the musical)
  - major changes to the original script/score
  - social impact of the musical
- A character description for each of the main characters (4 minimum), including: (10 marks)
  - who they are (age, gender, social status)
  - what their conflict is and an outline of important relationships held with other characters
  - vocal and/or physical demands (example, soprano)
- A least 3 pictures of different sets which have been created for previous performances of the musical WITH captions! (6)
- Spelling, grammar & presentation (10 marks)
- Reference sheet (5 marks)

Reminders:
- Don’t merely cut and paste research; paraphrase your text and include a list of your sources (web links) at the end of your handout
- Assign one group member to compile and edit the handout. Make sure this looks professional—add graphics, borders, matching font, subheadings, etc.
- You can email me the handout in .pdf form or the power point presentation. (rassika.risko@dsbn.org)
Starting points:

- www.musicals101.com
- http://www.guidetomusicaltheatre.com/

Companies that hold the performance rights for musicals include:

- http://www.mtishows.com/
- http://www.tams-witmark.com/

(They often have a lot of the information that you will be needing)

Examples of musicals (ask me for help, and you're not limited to this list):

- West Side Story
- Chicago
- Rent
- Wicked
- Cats
- Guys & Dolls
- The Lion King
- Little Shop of Horrors
- The Book of Mormon
- Godspell
- Mamma Mia!
- Jekyll & Hyde
- How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying
- Joseph & the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

...and the list goes on and on and on.... 😊