

## Using Talis Elevate in ENG-10029: Playing Parts: Studying Drama and Poetry

Throughout the module, you will be asked to engage in close reading exercises with your peers to help you develop your analytical skills in conversation with one another. To help you close read together, we will be using Talis Elevate.

Talis Elevate is an online social annotation tool, which allows you to read and annotate the exact same document as your peers. Talis Elevate allows you to see and respond to one another's comments so that you can develop critical discussions about the assigned texts.

Please watch the short (2 min) introductory video and/or read the following step-by-step instructions on how to use Talis Elevate. We will be using Talis Elevate in the first seminar (Week 3), so you'll need to have watched the video and/or read the instructions before then.

### Video:

A short (2 min) introductory video on how to use Talis Elevate can be found here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T2mj1AR7n1E>

### Written instructions:

1. For tasks that require you to close read in groups, you will be provided with a link to the relevant folder/document on Talis Elevate. Your tutor will let you know the name of the document you have been assigned to read. You will also be given some prompts to guide you in your reading.
2. Click the link and log in with your Keele credentials. Once you've logged in, you'll be taken directly to the designated reading.
3. The document will load, at which point you will be able to read and make comments on it. To annotate the text, highlight the relevant words and type your response in the text box on the right-hand side of the screen.
4. You have two options: you can add comments that everyone will see and be able to respond to ('class comments' tab) or you can click the 'personal note' tab, where you can add notes only you will see. It is OK to add comments in the 'personal note' tab for you to refer to later. For group work, please try to share your thoughts in the 'class comments' tab. You have the option to write your comments anonymously and can do so by clicking the small icon at the bottom right of the commenting pane:



5. Your comments will not be marked; rather, the Talis Elevate exercises are intended for you to engage in critical discussion with one another to help you build your close reading skills for your assignments and beyond them.
6. You can respond to other people's comments by clicking 'agree' and by replying with a written comment.
7. A similar process takes place when viewing and annotating images or videos. Talis Elevate allows you to click on images and pause videos at any moment, at which point you can add a comment down the right-hand side of the screen for your peers to see and respond to with their own thoughts.
8. Be mindful to engage in respectful discussion. This is intended as a safe space for you to explore your ideas in a friendly and supportive environment.
9. Don't hesitate to get in touch with your seminar tutor if you have any issues accessing or engaging with the content in Talis Elevate.