

Street Car: KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Context		Blanche	Main character sister to Stella and an English teacher	Upper class and the decaying South and the tragic heroine	"I've got to be good and keep my hands off children", "they told me to take a streetcar named Desire, and then transfer to one called Cemeteries.."
1911	Tennessee Williams was born Thomas Lanier Williams III in Columbus, Mississippi				
1918	The Williams family moved to St. Louis, marking the start of the family's deterioration. Father was a drinker and mother prone to hysteria.	Stella	Sister to Blanche, wife to Stanley. Pregnant	The loyal wife, accepting of change and male aggression	"In the first place when men are drinking and playing poker anything can happen. It's always a powder-keg' "he smashed all the light-bulbs with the heel of my slipper! "I was-sort of-thrilled by it"
1918-28	The family moved sixteen times in ten years, and the young Williams, always shy and fragile, was ostracized and taunted at school. He and sister Rose were very close..	Eunice	Minor character owns the building with Steve	Class , friendliness. (She means well).	"What's the matter honey you lost?" "I always did say men are callous things with no feelings" "life has got to go on"
1927-	After being bedridden for two years as a child due to severe illness, Williams grew into a withdrawn, effeminate adolescent whose chief solace was writing.	Steve Hubble	Married to Eunice friend of Stanley	Change - in gender stereotype	"Aw let the girls have their music" "This is no way to do it she should have been told", "This game is seven-card stud"
1929	He entered the University of Missouri to study journalism. His father forced him to stop University and work in the same shoe company as he did.	Mitch	Stanley's friend and suitor of Blanche	A weak man in a man's world.	"Poker shouldn't be played in a house with women", "You're not clean enough to bring in the house with my mother", " You! You done this, all o'your interfering...'
1947	. <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> cemented Williams's reputation, garnering another Drama Critics' Circle Award and also a Pulitzer Prize.	Stanley	Antagonist married to Stella	Working class, macho man. Cruelty, selfishness	"Oh so you want some rough- house!", "we've had this date with each other from the beginning", You left nothing here but spilt talcum an old empty perfume bottle" "Quit the blubber"
Post war era	New American taste for realism that emerged following the Depression and World War II.	Pablo	Stanley's poker playing friend	Immigrant class shows the nature of New Orleans	"Madre Dios!Cosa mala, muy,muy, mala!
Hvgiene	Streets in Victorian London were dangerously dirty and unhygienic	Dr, Nurse	Their appearance is almost ghostly . Dr is pleasant/nurse harsh.	Nurse represents what may come Dr gives her some dignity.	"these fingernails need to be trimmed" " Jacket Doctor?"(Nurse "It won't be necessary"(DR)
Key ideas and themes		Young collector	Minor character	Suggests Blanche's desires and reckless nature	"Sikes clenched his teeth, took one look round, left Oliver in a ditch, threw his cloak over him, cleared a hedge in a bound, and was gone.'
1.Desire/passion/fate	...Intertwined through the symbolism of the Street Car	Negro woman	Minor characters Vendor	Cosmopolitan, rough district	"don't waste your money in that clip joint" "Hey sugar" "red hot"
2.Reality/ appearance	...references to the light and shadows, moths , lampshades ,lies .Blanche /Stanley				
3.Social class	...reflected through the Dubois family, once wealthy fallen on hard times, superiority goes with family name, remnants of the Old South. Stanley's resentment is shown throughout conflict with Blanche.				
4.Domestic violence and rape	...forces audience to think and form alliances with characters challenges ideas of what is /isn't acceptable.in society.				
5. Madness	...this theme is shown in scene 1 and through both Stella's actions to Blanche and Stanley's cruelty –which causes her demise in Scene 11				
6. Death	...Deaths at Belle Reve, suicide,Stanley's attitude to death /invincibility				
7.The American dream	...audience consider whether this is ever possible contextual influences				

Plot										
1. Blanche comes to visit her younger sister. Poor part of New Orleans she feels	2. Introduced to Stanley her sister's husband who is common and does not like the intrusion in his life of this	3.Poker game and violence brought about by too much alcohol and male	4. Stella accepts her lot in life as a sign of love and Blanche cannot accept Stella will not leave her man.	5. Stanley makes enquires about Blanche and is happy with his	6. Blanche goes out with Mitch and she finally sees some hope in her life. Her story comes out.	7. Blanche's birthday dinner and Stanley reveals he has told Mitch and he will no longer be coming over.	8. Stanley gives Blanche a birthday present -a Bus Ticket out of town. Stella tells him that is cruel. Blanche becomes increasingly anxious.	9. Mitch comes over drunk and Blanche admits her promiscuity. He accuses her of lying he will not listen to her explanation.	10. Stella has a aby and Stanley comes home to find Blanche half drunk and upset. Her scares her further and carries her into	11. Stella and Stanley have Blanche committed. The men play poker and Blanche dazed and disorientated is led away