

THEATRE IN EDUCATION

The Actor's Tool Kit

- Pitch
- Pace
- Tone
- Accent
- Volume
- Emphasis
- Facial Expressions
- Gestures
- Posture
- Mannerism
- Body Language



Year 8 – Devising – Theatre in Education

A scheme of work that asks students to design a piece of theatre for a specific audience, they need to be aware of the appropriateness of the piece, and also focus on how to engage and not patronise the audience. This should start them thinking about how you can communicate a message to the audience through devising, that is needed in GCSE Component 2.

What is Theatre in Education?

After the Second World War, people became aware that drama or theatre techniques might be useful as a way of fostering effective learning in schools. This is known as Theatre in education or 'TIE' for short.

The main elements:

- There is a clear aim and educational objective running throughout.
- A small cast so actors must be versatile and often have to multi-role.
- They explore issues from various viewpoints, so we can see the effect of an action upon a range of people.
- There is some level of audience involvement.
- They are rarely wholly naturalistic because direct address or narration is used to engage the audience.
- They may include facts and figures to educate the audience.
- They may have a strong message or moral running throughout.

Missing Dan Nolan



By Mark Wheeler

Goldilocks & The Three Bears



YOU ARE FREE
to choose
BUT YOU ARE NOT FREE FROM THE
consequences
OF YOUR CHOICE



When asked to create a play for children, Stanislavski said:

“The same as for adults, only better.”

The Rules

- No swear words
- Nothing too scary
- Ensure the piece is age appropriate – PG
- Make sure it isn't patronising
- Only give them actual facts, not ones you have made up
- Ensure you consider the ethics of your piece
- Make it interesting and creative
- Ensure it meets the success criteria for a TIE piece



Year 8 Glossary

Mime	The use of movements, gestures and facial expressions to communicate an idea without words
Posture	The position a character holds themselves in when sitting or standing
Gestures	A movement made by part of the body (e.g. arms, head) to convey a character's emotion
Mannerism	A repeated physical or vocal habit that contributes to characterisation
Pitch	How high or low an actor's voice is. This can be used as a feature of a character or to show a character's emotional state.
Pace	Pace is the speed that lines are delivered
Volume	How loud or quiet a vocal performance is. This could be a feature of a character or how a character's emotions
Intonation	This is the rise and fall of a voice that created a natural pattern of speech. This can be used to create meaning, by stressing a word for emphasis
Tone	How a line is delivered, adding emotional impact to spoken words
Accent	Can signal to the audience where a character is from, social class or status
Pauses	Pauses can be used to create tension, can shape the delivery of an actor's lines and/or can add to the realism of a scene

Unison	The process where actions or dialogue happen at the same time and in the same way
Canon	People moving or speaking in the same way one after the other
Thrust Stage	A stage that extends out into the audience, so that they are seated on three sides
Traverse	A long, narrow stage which runs between the audience, who face the stage on both sides
Proscenium Arch Stage	A box shaped stage which is set back from the audience so that the front end is open to them, framed by the arch itself
End on Stage	A stage which has the audience on one side of the stage, facing the action
In the Round	A style of staging where the audience is seated on all sides of the stage.
Chanting	A chant is a short, simple series of syllables or words that are spoken with the same tone. It is usually repetitive
Narration	A character who comments on the action and the plot to the audience, can be first- person (involved in the action) or third -person (set apart from the action)
Thought Tracking	When a character tells the audience their thoughts during a pause in the action
Devil and Angel	Technique where a character faces a dilemma and the audience can hear the voice of their conscience, the good angel to the right and bad angel to their left
Non-linear structure	When the events of the plot are not in chronological order.
Split Stage	When the stage is split into two different areas representing different places or times