

HOW TO DEVISE DRAMA

Definition of Devising: A method of Theatre-making, in which the story emerges from stimuli (ideas), rather than an existing script. What happens in each scene is planned and created and generated by the actors themselves. Often, there isn't a 'main' character - the group is an ensemble, who have equal roles.

Skills and techniques we will be using:

Flashback - Starting in the present, then going back in time to show a moment

Mirroring - 2 actors stand opposite each other. 1 plays the 'real' character, the other plays their reflection/conscience

Devil and Angel - Usually stand behind character on either shoulder, playing a good/bad conscience

Still Image - A frozen picture created by the actors

Narration - Explaining what is happening in the story

Reportage - Using Reporters and eye witnesses, in a news report style, to show real-life events in a realistic style

Thought Tracks - The group freeze, while 1 character speaks a phrase to show their thoughts/feelings

Monologue - A speech delivered by 1 character, which normally shows a journey of emotions and development of character

Stimulus 1 - "The Scream" by Edvard Munch.

This Artist had an emotional breakdown, and after recovering, he painted what it felt like. This is why the landscape doesn't look realistic. We call this 'abstract Art', as it doesn't resemble real life, but feelings.

Stimulus 2 - "There was a little girl" poem

This poem describes a little girl who can be very good and very bad. This poem could be seen as a character who has a split personality (she feels like she can be 2 different people).

Stimulus 3 - images from the Artist, Roy Lichtenstein.

In the 1960s in America, there was a new Art movement called 'Pop Art'. In this style, the cartoon style of Art is celebrated. His images are colourful and the expressions are very dramatic, as they depict crucial moments of choice or drama.

Stimulus 4 - The Grenfell Tower Fire.

We will first understand the facts of this tragic, true-life event. We will then use the technique of 'reportage'. This will help us to pay tribute to the emergency services, eye witnesses and victims of this terrible incident.