

Year 8 Autumn Term



Articulation

Articulation is the way of saying things more clearly. Good articulation in acting is when you say your words clearly and that they can be understood by the audience. Good articulation uses clear precise pronunciation not just raising the volume!

Monologue

A monologue is a speech presented by a single character. Mark Wheeler states, 'The monologues need movement (together with use of voice) to help tell the story. These speeches must not become stand still (or even sit down), point to the audience, lectures. Equally the movement must not be such that it distracts from the power of the verbatim words which is also a danger. The whole thing is a tightrope act and needs thorough exploration and experimentation with various ways of presenting it before decisions are made as to how to go forward. It is all too easy to accept the first response and say "we've done it."'

Inflection

Inflection is used by an actor to help express the text to the audience. It adds drama and passion, it helps bring the text to life

Vocal Colour

Applying vocal colour is when the actors make the word sound like what it describes. The actor needs to feel what they are saying. It is tempting to just add power or volume but exploring tone and breath will also help you add vocal colour.

Try saying the words "tiny" or "exhausted" with vocal colour

Emphasis

Emphasis is when an actor uses their voice to stress a given word or words when speaking to indicate particular importance.

Drama Terms

Monologue
Documentary theatre
Verbatim Plays
Tone
Inflection
Intonation
Articulation
Vocal Colour
Emphasis

Drama Vocab

Still image –creating a "picture" of a key moment

Thought tracking- a character steps out of the scene to explain what they are thinking

Internal Monologue- a person's inner voice

Mark Wheeler and Dan Nolan

Mark Wheeler is a playwright and a retired drama teacher. He writes plays for his youth theatre and is one of the most performed playwrights in Britain. Missing Dan Nolan is a set text for GCSE Drama.

Missing Dan Nolan is based on the true story of Dan Nolan, a fourteen-year-old boy who went fishing in Hamble (between Southampton and Portsmouth) on the night of 1st January 2002.

Documentary Theatre and Verbatim Plays

Documentary theatre is theatre that uses pre-existing documentary material, e.g. newspapers, interviews, journals and correspondences, as source material for stories about real events and people, frequently without altering the text in performance

Dan Nolan is also referred to as a verbatim play which means all the words in the script are from interviews Mark Wheeler conducted with the people involved in the actual event depicted in the play

Intonation

Intonation works at word, phrase, and sentence levels to vary meaning, intent, and emotion. Intonation is a subtle, but critical. Actors make great use of intonation to, among other things, signify mood or differentiate questions from statements, but it can also be used to change the meaning of the text from the author's intention.

A -"Do you take sugar?"

B- "I don't, no"

Intonation can change the "no" to "know" and alter the answer