



Writing in drama

7 strategies for Stage 4, 5 or 6

Creative writing

Students are to improvise a scene in groups based on a photograph. Individually, students will write a creative piece continuing the story and explaining the events that followed the scene. Students will then read their writing aloud and discuss how the language features support reader engagement.



Text forms & structure

Select a text with a specific form and function. Get students to experiment with the structure and re-write it for a different purpose. Create and photograph various tableaux to support and enhance the effectiveness of the new writing piece.



Vocabulary

Perform a scene based on a given word but hidden from the audience. Improvise a scene, without saying the word but giving enough clues for the audience to guess what it is. Write down any new words with definitions into class logbooks.



Language features

Listen to series of radio advertisements. Analyse the language features used to enhance their purpose. Get students to individually write a script for an ad based on a product chosen by the teacher. Describe the language features used in each radio advertisement writing a reflection in their class logbooks.



Grammar

Discuss how grammar enhances clarity in scriptwriting. Line the classroom walls with butchers paper titled with various grammatical terms. Individually, students are to contribute one word to each piece of paper. Once completed, students are to select one word from each poster to write down and use as a stimulus for a script.



Perspectives

Improvise a scene assigning a role to each character of the Basel mask family interacting in a public location. Reflect on the performance by writing an inner-monologue detailing the point of view from one of the mask characters. Discuss the links to the elements of role and character.



Spelling

Study and write a review of a play you have watched as a class. Get students to swap their writing with a partner to mark. Discuss the importance of spelling.

