

Sample Lesson Plans
Seton Arts Service Corps – Summer Program 2015
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Teaching elementary students the basic skills of acting and different aspects of theatre in fifty-minute classes for a five-day day camp

Seton Arts Service Corps – Drama
Kelsey Riker

Drama Class Objectives:

- Teaching and honing the basic skills of live dramatic performance; including monologues, scenes, improvisation, writing, movement, and public speaking

Lesson Objectives:

- Introduce class rules and relate them to good behaviors of an audience
- Introduce and practice basic warm-up procedures
- Discuss and practice good stage presence and speaking skills through the writing and performance of a getting-to-know-you monologue

Materials:

- Getting-to-Know-You monologue forms (provided by scholars)
- Pencils

Activities:

I. Introduction

- Introduce scholars
- Explanation of Drama class
- Introduce class rules and relate them to good behaviors of an audience

II. Warm-up

- An introduction and completion of a physical warm-up

III. Getting-to-Know-You Monologue

- Fill in the blanks of the Getting-To-Know-You monologue form in order to get better acquainted with students
- Discuss techniques for good stage presence

IV. Monologue Presentation

- Perform the monologues for the class, practicing the performance techniques discussed

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Drama Class Objectives:

- Teach and hone the basic skills of live dramatic performance; including monologues, scenes, improvisation, writing, movement, and public speaking

Lesson Objectives:

- Continue the exploration of the creation of monologues and discuss the different aspects of creating a character, especially focusing on movement

Materials:

- Production photos (provided by scholars)
- Pencils
- Blank paper

Activities:

I. Warm-up

- A warm-up to stretch the body

II. Monologue Activity

- Break students into 4-5 groups and show each group a production still of a specific character in a professional production of an American play
- Students will write a monologue based on what they see in the picture
- Students will create a character walk and/or other physical qualities for their characters

III. Monologue Presentation

- Students will present their walks and monologues in character
- Scholars will introduce the titles, featured characters, and summaries of the plays shown

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- Teach and hone the basic skills of live dramatic performance; including monologues, scenes, improvisation, writing, movement, and public speaking

Lesson Objectives:

- Create a character from scratch with distinct physical, occupational, and personality characteristics
- Design a costume for said character

Materials:

- Pencils
- Colored Pencils
- Lined paper
- Costume Renderings (provided by scholars)

Activities:

I. Warm-up

- A warm-up to stretch the body and vocal chords

II. Creation of a Character

- Students will create a character from their imagination, filling in as many details as possible about the character's life and situation (occupation, family, origin, likes, dislikes, etc.)

III. Costume Rendering

- Scholars will explain the importance of costumes in performance and the use of a costume rendering in the production's initial stages
- Students will create a 2-D costume rendering for their character using colored pencils

IV. Presentation

- Students will introduce themselves as their character as well as share and explain their costume rendering

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Drama Class Objectives:

- Teach and hone the basic skills of live dramatic performance; including monologues, scenes, improvisation, writing, movement, and public speaking

Lesson Objectives:

- Write a scene using students' character and a random setting
- Design a set for the scene

Materials:

- Pencils
- Colored Pencils
- Lined paper
- Set Renderings (provided by scholars)
- Random settings in hat (provided by scholars)

Activities:

I. Warm-up

- A warm-up to stretch the body and vocal chords

II. Writing a Scene

- Break students into 4-5 groups and have them select a setting randomly out of a hat
- Groups must use their characters from the previous class and the selected setting to write a short scene

III. Set Rendering

- Scholars will explain the importance of sets in performance and the use of a set rendering in the production's initial stages
- Groups will create a set design based on the setting chosen for their scene

IV. Presentation

- Groups will present their set renderings and their scenes

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Drama Class Objectives:

- Teach and hone the basic skills of live dramatic performance; including monologues, scenes, improvisation, writing, movement, and public speaking

Lesson Objectives:

- Introduce and practice the concept of improvisation

Materials:

- None needed

Activities:

I. Warm-up

- A warm-up to stretch the body and vocal chords

II. Improvisation

- Introduce the concept and go over basic rules
- Get familiar and comfortable with improv through various games