

Characterisation Knowledge Organiser

Vocal Skills:	Definition:	Physical Skills:	Definition:
Pitch	How high or low the voice is.	Gesture	Used to show how a character feels or expresses their thoughts.
Pace	The rhythm and speed with which words are spoken.	Facial Expression	Shows a character's response to a situation or reveals their inner feelings and thoughts.
Projection (or volume)	How loud or quiet the voice is.	Body language	The way a performer communicates non-verbally.
Pause	Stopping to emphasise a point or provide contrast and variation.	Posture (or stance)	How a character stands. Could show their age, status or emotional state.
Intonation	The rise and fall of the voice to provide variation and interest.	Gait	How the character walks.
Tone	How lines are said to convey meaning.	Proxemics	How the performer uses stage space. Could show relationships or status.
Accent	Used to indicate where a character is from (location) or to show social class or status.	Focus (or eye contact)	Where a character is looking.
Inflection	The ups and downs of spoken language.	Levels	The height of a character/actor.
Emphasis (or stress)	Used to place importance on specifically chosen words.	Movement	How a character moves.
Nuance	Subtle changes in voice to change the meaning in a text.		
Charaterisation/rehearsal techniques	Definition		
Hot seating	A character is questioned by the group about his or her background, behaviour and motivation.		
Given circumstances	Textual information given to an actor about a character or moment (this cannot be altered). This will help them to play the character and situation true to the text.		
Objective	An objective is what a character wants to achieve within a scene.		
Centre of weight	This technique allows the performer to explore different center's of weight in rehearsal to find the one that suits the specific character they are playing.		
Vocal skills	Using pace, pitch, volume, tone and accent to communicate the intentions of your character.		