

# Acting Workshop - Unit 1: The Art of Acting

Content Area: **Arts**  
Course(s): **Acting Works F**  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **Two Weeks (and ongoing)**  
Status: **Published**

## Standards

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VPA.9-12.1.1.12.1	Theatre and the arts play a significant role in human history and culture.
VPA.9-12.1.1.12.2	Characters have physical, emotional, and social dimensions that can be communicated through the application of acting techniques.
VPA.9-12.1.1.12.C.1	Analyze examples of theatre's influence on history and history's influence on theatre in Western and non-Western theatre traditions.
VPA.9-12.1.1.12.C.2	Formulate a process of script analysis to identify how the physical, emotional, and social dimensions of a character are communicated through the application of acting techniques.
VPA.9-12.1.3.12	All students will synthesize those skills, media, methods, and technologies appropriate to creating, performing, and/or presenting works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.9-12.1.3.12.1	Effective scripted and improvisational performances require informed, supported, and sustained choices by actors, directors, and designers. Theatre genres are created by combining complex narrative structures, technical theatrical elements, and thematic intent.
VPA.9-12.1.3.12.2	Presentation of believable, multidimensional characters in scripted and improvised performances requires application of specific physical choices, sustained vocal technique, and clearly motivated actions.
VPA.9-12.1.3.12.C.1	Create plays that include well-structured plots and subplots, clear thematic intent, original characters, and technical theatrical elements appropriate to a variety of theatrical genres.
VPA.9-12.1.3.12.C.2	Create and evaluate performances by citing evidence of specific physical choices, sustained vocal technique, and clearly motivated actions.
VPA.9-12.1.4.12.1	Recognition of fundamental elements within various arts disciplines (dance, music, theatre, and visual art) is dependent on the ability to decipher cultural implications embedded in artworks.
VPA.9-12.1.4.12.2	The cohesiveness of a work of art and its ability to communicate a theme or narrative can be directly affected by the artist's technical proficiency as well as by the manner and physical context in which it is performed or shown.
VPA.9-12.1.4.12.3	Artistic styles, trends, movements, and historical responses to various genres of art evolve over time.
VPA.9-12.1.4.12.A.1	Use contextual clues to differentiate between unique and common properties and to discern the cultural implications of works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.9-12.1.4.12.A.3	Develop informed personal responses to an assortment of artworks across the four arts disciplines (dance, music, theatre, and visual art), using historical significance, craftsmanship, cultural context, and originality as criteria for assigning value to the works.
VPA.9-12.1.4.12.B.1	Formulate criteria for arts evaluation using the principles of positive critique and observation of the elements of art and principles of design, and use the criteria to evaluate works of dance, music, theatre, visual, and multimedia artwork from diverse cultural contexts and historical eras.
VPA.9-12.1.4.12.B.2	Evaluate how an artist's technical proficiency may affect the creation or presentation of a work of art, as well as how the context in which a work is performed or shown may impact

## **Enduring Understanding**

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1. Identify the characteristics of the theatrical form and the major structural elements of play, including; plot line, the structure of dialogue, the use of editing, and the relationship of audience to work.
2. Recognize the significant characteristics of the major periods of theatrical history: Greek, Roman, Medieval and Italian Renaissance, Elizabethan and Jacobean, Restoration and 18th Century, Romanticism and Melodrama, and the major movements of modern theater – Absurdism, Realism and Musical Theatre
3. Understand the role of actor's unions and their history.
4. Differentiate between the professional and academic acting experiences.

## **Essential Questions**

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1. What is acting?
2. How has the craft of acting developed throughout history?
3. How is relaxation and concentration important to the craft of acting?
4. What is improvisation, objective, and tactics?

## **Knowledge and Skills**

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Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of observation and concentration on an object or occurrence and provide written and oral report providing information on all aspects of what they have seen, such as colors, shape, movement, texture, and action.
- Demonstrate sensory awareness in a set of environment by determining how an actor sees and hears through observation and listening games.
- Define and understand how to work with and interpret Shakespearean language to create believable characters through the analysis of dialogue.
- Understand how to memorize and perform a rehearsed Shakespearean scene.
- Understand that all scenes can be interpreted in the same manner.
- Create a simple comedy script through the use of Commedia Dell'arte scenarios.

## **Resources**

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Scripts including contentless scenes, yes no scenes and ritual Meisner study.

Historical articles from theatre textbooks.

Worksheets and self assessment forms

DVD's on theatre performances and specific actors  
Scenes

## **Transfer Goals**

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### **Communication:**

1) Students will be able to effectively communicate specific forms of the theatre while obtaining the ability to build confidence and assurance in themselves and to enhance their ability to talk in front of others and convey meaning.

### **Collaboration:**

2) Students will be able to work effectively and learn from others in a variety of situations using theatrical techniques and methods.

## **Assessments**

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[Assessments](#)

## **Modifications**

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[Modifications](#)