

# The Elements of Movement

Content Area: **Music**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 2**  
Length: **15**  
Status: **Published**

## Summary/Introduction

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ELD standards: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wdmsiGOdCHlrjU-WPvAtENnEgi0EStZXo0uiFYv1Nu4/edit>

The focus of this unit is for students to learn how to act with the whole body and learn that physicality is an integral part of creating a believable character.

**Revised:** August 2024

TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Cr1c	Use script analysis to generate ideas about a character that is believable and authentic.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Cr2a	Explore the function of history and culture in the development and subsequent interpretations of devised or scripted theatre work.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Cr2b	Examine the collaborative nature of the actor, director, playwright, and designers, and explore their interdependent roles.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Cr3a	Use script analysis to inform choices impacting the believability and authenticity of a character.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Cr3b	Practice devised or scripted theatre work using theatrical staging conventions.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Pr4a	Rehearse various acting exercises to expand skills in a rehearsal for devised or scripted theatre performance.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Pr5a	Identify and explore different pacing options per character to better communicate the story in a theatre work.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Pr5b	Explore and discover character choices using given circumstances in devised or scripted theatre work.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Pr6a	Perform devised or scripted theatre work for a specific audience.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Re7a	Utilize personal reactions and reflections to artistic choices in a theatrical work for a formal theatre critique.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Re7b	Collaboratively analyze how artistic choices in a theatrical work affect personal and peer reactions.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Re8a	Examine a devised or scripted theatre work and identify the supporting evidence/criteria for its effectiveness to communicate the central message considering the play's history, culture, and political context.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Re8b	Evaluate the aesthetics of the production elements in a devised or scripted theatre work and their ability to support or extend the storyline.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Re8c	Formulate a deeper understanding and appreciation of a devised or scripted theatre work by considering its specific purpose or intended audience.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Re9a	Analyze and compare artistic choices developed from personal experiences in multiple devised or scripted theatre works.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Re9b	Identify and compare cultural perspectives and contexts that may influence the evaluation

	of a devised or scripted theatre work.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Re9c	Justify personal aesthetics, preferences and beliefs through participation in and observation of devised or scripted theatre work.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Cn10a	Investigate how cultural perspectives, community ideas, and personal beliefs impact a devised or scripted theatre work.
TH.9-12.1.4.12prof.Cn11a	Integrate knowledge of cultural, global and historic belief systems into creative choices in a devised or scripted theatre work.

## Essential Questions/Enduring Understandings

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- What is stage movement and how does it affect character?
- How does the position of the audience impact how an actor moves onstage?
- How does the distance between actors inform how an audience member views a scene?
- How can movement help characterization?

Theatre artists rely on intuition, curiosity and critical inquiry.

What happens when theatre artists use their imaginations and/or learned theatre skills while engaging in creative exploration and inquiry?

How, when, and why do theatre artists' choices change?

Theatre artists refine their work and practice their craft through rehearsal.

How do theatre artists transform and edit their initial ideas?

Theatre artists develop personal processes and skills for a performance or design.

Theatre artists make choices to convey meaning.

How do theatre artists use tools and techniques to communicate ideas and feelings?

Theatre artists, through a shared creative experience with an audience, present stories, ideas, and envisioned worlds to explore the human experience.

What happens when theatre artists and audiences share creative experiences?

How do theatre artists comprehend the essence of drama processes and theatre experiences?

Theatre artists' interpretations of drama/theatre work are influenced by personal experiences and aesthetics.

Theatre artists allow awareness of interrelationships between self and others to inform their work.

What happens when theatre artists foster understanding between self and others through critical awareness, social responsibility, and the exploration of empathy?

As theatre is created and experienced, personal experiences and knowledge are synthesized to interpret meaning and analyze the way in which the world may be understood.

What happens when theatre artists allow an understanding of themselves and the world to inform perceptions about theatre and the purpose of their work?

## Objectives

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Students will know:

- Where to stand onstage to either empower or weaken their position compared to other characters

onstage.

- The importance of topography in creating a dynamic stage picture.
- The term "business" as it applies to staging and when to utilize it.

Students will be at skilled at:

- Analyzing and manipulating the different parts of the body in order to change their shape to better articulate character.
- Defining character traits, such as age and power status, through movement.
- Conveying truthful emotion through facial expressions and physical movement.

## **Learning Plan**

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- Review basic stage directions (upstage, downstage, etc).
- Create stage pictures and analyze where the eye is drawn and who is the last person seen.
- Practice moving across the stage and engaging in scenes without upstaging oneself.
- Apply these skills to the showcase.

## **Assessments**

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- Regularly review basic stage directions to ensure students are retaining them.
- Create and edit stage pictures to determine understanding of staging principles.
- Refer back to these during improv and in preparation for the showcase.

## **Materials**

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- Journals

## **Suggested Strategies for Modifications**

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[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1A-PxTb-SqSbhdiTWm8sCR69UJhJ2Oq\\_ixoy\\_hgPpInc/edit?gid=1426178898#gid=1426178898](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1A-PxTb-SqSbhdiTWm8sCR69UJhJ2Oq_ixoy_hgPpInc/edit?gid=1426178898#gid=1426178898)

