

Year 7 Drama -Knowledge Organiser A Boy in a Dress- David Walliams play adapted by Mrs Madden

MARKING THE MOMENT

Scene:

Dennis goes to his local shop everyday by the friendliest shop keeper Raj. When he sees the cover of a [Vogue](#) magazine and is transfixed by it. He then proceeds to buy a copy from Raj, who takes his time scanning it in whilst Dennis is stood embarrassed and pretends its for someone else and not him.

Marking the Moment:

Marking the moment is a brilliant drama technique which allows the audience to focus on a key moment/scene in a play or performance.



Different ways to Mark the Moment;

- Still image
- Narration
- Thought track
- Slow Motion
- Use of sound
- Use of Lighting



The Characters :

Characters	Character Profile
Dennis	Dennis keeps a picture of his mum that is the only thing he has remaining of her. The picture shows the Mum wearing a yellow dress. In this scene Dennis is drawn to a Vogue magazine that resembles the same dress that the Mum is wearing in his picture. He becomes fixated with the magazine and cant put it down
Raj	Raj is the local shop keeper who is a loveable character and has a larger than life personality. He always has Dennis' best interest at heart and spreads joy wherever he goes.
Georgia, and Martha	You have already met these two characters at the beginning of the script where these characters are "Narrators". Martha is more of a ditsy character that everyone gets frustrated with especially Georgia.
Lucy, Roxy, Max, and Evie	These are all extra narrators who are all there to tell the narration of what Dennis' inner thoughts are. The extra characters act as an ensemble who represent a group of friends.



The script you will be performing

Scene 3: 'Vogue'

Lucy: Every morning before school Dennis would go to Ronnie's Newsagents.

Roxy: Dennis's Dad was rubbish at having food in, and Dennis would stop by Ronnie's to buy his breakfast...usually some Dolly Mixtures and a can of coke.

Lucy: And...he also went as Ronnie was the most, the friendliest, bestest, happiest, jolliest, man ever...and he always ALWAYS made Dennis smile. And...well, let's face it, ...Dennis needs to smile!

Dennis: Mornin' Ronnie!

Ronnie: *(Bright and breezy)* Well good morning to my....

(Chanting with a jig...Dad style rap! Dennis is embarrassed but secretly loves the attention and finds it funny)

Little Dennis
the Menace,
The ace footy star,
want a chocolate bar?
or some black toffee?
4 for the price of 3?
Or a footy mag?
You want some swag?
But not cigarettes

Or lottery bets,
But Ronnie is my name
And selling's my game!

Booyakashaaa! '

(Other people in the shop clap and laugh. Ronnie bows proudly. He is likable and everyone loves him)

Dennis: Hj:ya Ronnie...err...I'm just buying some Wotsits...and I'll just look at the footy mags....

Ronnie: No problem Dennis my boy! Buy 11 packs of Wotsits and I'll give you a free carrier bag! Now that's a bargain!

Dennis: Err...yeah...I'll err, think about it..

STILL IMAGE

Libby: And it was then! There! In that very second.....Life for Dennis would change forever.

Georgia: Drawn...as if to a magnet.....Dennis noticed a magazine...a ladies' magazine...

Martha: A rudely dudey one?

Georgia: SShhhh.NOOOO! Vogue! A fashion one?

Martha: I prefer 'Take a Break'...

All on stage:...even those in still image yell – Shut up!

Evie: It was something about the cover....a pretty lady....happy, pretty, gorgeous in fact....in a yellow dress

Lucy, Roxy, Max, Martha and Georgia: *(realising the connection)* Like his MUMS!!!!

Georgia: So...*(Dennis starts to mime to Georgia's narration the actions described)* he looked around...checked no one was looking and touched the glossy fRonnie! cover, opened the first page, then turned, and turned...

Max: And each page was a feast for the eyes..pages of glamorous faces, of adverts for expensive face cream and mascaras,

Roxy: Of 'What not to wear' and 'What TO wear' and 'How to flatter your pear shape figure'...

Lucy: and with each picture Dennis was hooked! Like...the sunshine was starting to come out again...

Evie: And he worked it out if he used his crisp money given to him two weeks he could buy it...but that was the tricky bit...how could he buy it???. What would Ronnie say?

Lucy: Watch and we'll find out!

(Narrators step back and we watch the action in the shop)

Dennis: *(Sheepishly)* Errm, I'm a bit late Ronnie, so I'll just pay for these then leg it to school...

Ronnie: Hahaha! You! Always on the go! Always keen to get to school early to kick that ball, I know! *(Scans each item: sound effect of each)* Dolly Mixture grab Bag, good choice, Monster Munch Roast Beef flavour, Soccer

Weekly andoh dear....you've picked up this Woman's Fashion Magazine by accident! *(Holds up Vogue)*

Dennis *(Really embarrassed now)* Errm....It's err....that is...I meant to pick it up..

Ronnie: Hahahaha! Sure you did my boy! What a hoot you are!

Dennis: *(Awkwardly laughing)* Hahahaha *(Trails off laughing)* yeah..ha..funny..err....It's for me...my....my Auntie...Auntie Kate.

Ronnie: Well, why didn't you say, I've got cards, and wrapping paper, and those ribbons that curl, and gift tags, and tissue paper.....

Dennis pays as quickly as he can and hurries away.



Acting skills

Facial expressions

Hand gestures

Vocal techniques

- Accent
- Tone
- Pitch
- Volume
- Pace
- Stutter
- Pause

Body language

Reactions

Movement

Posture

Reactions

Key word

Definition

Marking the Moment

Drama convention to help highlight a key moment in a scene or story

Narration

Where actors tell the story to the audience

Still Image/Freeze frame

When actors create a picture frozen in time

Slow Motion

When actors slow right down to give the illusion they are in slow motion

Thought-Tracking

When a character tells the audience how they are feeling.

Reactions

Using acting skills to show how you feel about the other characters or the scene action .



Did you know ?

Raj The Shopkeeper

A familiar face to readers of David Walliams' books - Raj features across nearly every story. This lovable newsagent acts as a pillar in the lives of the young characters entering his shop