

Year 8 Drama Knowledge Organiser- Term 6: 'Our Day Out'



Plot: "Our Day Out" is a play by Willy Russell, set in 1980's Liverpool.

A group of mischievous kids from Liverpool are taken on a school trip. They come from disadvantaged backgrounds- many of their parents would have been unemployed. Mrs. Kay organises the outing as a way to give them with a rare opportunity to enjoy a fun and educational experience.

They...

- Cause trouble on the coach
- Shoplift in a Welsh shop
- Run riot in a zoo
- End the trip in Conwy Castle in North Wales.



Homework Help: How to Learn Lines

- Highlight your lines
- Practice a little every day
- Read the line, cover it, say it
- Ask a friend/parent/carer to read the other lines- you reply with yours
- Many actors say their lines to the mirror to practice their facial expression



Digga	Mischievous and rebellious. Enjoys causing trouble and often leads the other students into trouble during their day out.
Riley	Another troublemaker. Witty and sarcastic.
Briggs	A very strict and no-nonsense teacher. Tries to maintain discipline and throughout the trip but the students rebel.
Andrews	Addicted to smoking- begs students. Comes from a very disadvantaged background.
Little Kid	A know-it-all. Annoys older students by threatening to tell a teacher about others mischief
Mrs Kay	A kind and compassionate teacher. She understands the challenges the students go through in their daily lives

What was happening in Liverpool in 1980's?

- Life was hard for many families.
- In 1980's many large factories and the Albert Dock closed down.
- This caused huge unemployment as many people in Liverpool lost their jobs.
- Working-class families suffered greatly
- This poverty made life very tough for young people
- Margaret Thatcher was Prime Minister and many people in Liverpool felt abandoned and angry with the government
- There wasn't equal education- wealthy children had a much better education
- Children who needed extra support with their learning rarely got it



How to Evaluate your Acting

When I said the line ' ' I
 When another character I reacted by.....

I did this to show that my character felt/
 is.....

E.g

I said the line, "Eh, Riley, light up!" with a strong Liverpudlian accent to make it clear that my character Digga is from Liverpool. I said the line loudly with a deep pitch to show that Digga is confident and not at all worried about a teacher catching him misbehaving.

★ Characterisation- Physical Skills ★

Facial expression	Eyes: Wide, glaring, squinting Eyebrows: Raised, furrowed Mouth: Clenched, jaw-dropped
Body language	Folded arms, throw hands shiver, shake/tremble, look down/up,
Posture	Upright, slouched, cowered, stooped
Hand gestures	Clenched fists, pointed, throw hands in air, open handed, fiddling with fingers
Proxemics	Move away/towards, huddled together, scatter

★ Characterisation- Vocal Skills ★

Accent	Liverpudlian, Upper Class British
Tone	Harsh, whiny, aggressive, cheeky
Pitch	High, squeaky, deep
Volume	Whisper, gentle, loud, shout
Pace	Fast, slow, hesitant, controlled, stuttering, pause

Eh, Riley,
light up!

