

ENGLISH ACTIVITY FOUR: WRITE A RADIO PLAY SCRIPT

Learning Objectives

- To improvise, devise and script drama;
- To adopt, create and sustain a range of roles;
- To describe setting, characters and atmosphere using dialogue to convey character and advance the action;
- To learn new vocabulary and incorporate vernacular phrases into dialogue to help develop characterization.

Resources

- The findings from your tool kit research
- The Vocabulary and Terms in [Historical Context Chapter 22](#)

Introduction

Introduce some of the terms and vocabulary.

This activity has 3-4 sections so can either be extended over a few lessons or simplified to shorten it.

MAIN TASKS

1. Using what you know about the soldier(s) whose life you have researched, develop a scene from a play focusing on an episode from his life you have discovered or an interaction with another soldier you have learnt about.
2. What happens in your scene? Is there a conflict or discovery, does your character go on an emotional journey, does something happen which has an effect on him and how does he respond?
3. Write a synopsis or notes outlining information about the characters and their journey and the 'event' the scene focuses on.
4. In pairs, improvise the script that might transpire from your notes, as if it is a radio play. One of you should be the main character and the other take the role of the other character(s). Think about how a radio play differs from a theatrical drama or film. As there is nothing visual, everything relies on the script and the way it is delivered. Sound effects can play a crucial role to help set the scene.
5. Work through both your script and your partner's or choose one scenario and develop it together. Include sound effects! How could you create these?
6. Write up your script following your improvisation. Think about the language of all the characters and how they need to be defined by what and how they speak because you cannot rely on anything visual.
7. Perform the scripts to each other, across the Year Groups or to the whole school in an assembly.

Extension Activity

Following on from the scene you have written, develop the synopsis for the whole play.