

The Grange School
A Visual and Performing Arts College
Assignment Brief.

Unit Title:	Unit B4: Acting Skills and Techniques
Qualification:	BTEC Level 2 First Certificate and Extended Certificate in Performing Arts (Acting)
Start Date:	22 nd Oct 2010
Timeframe:	22 nd October 2010 - 15 th January 2011.
Assessor:	L. Jack

Assignment title:	2/3. Reduced Theatre	
<p>The purpose of this assignment is: To extend your confidence and group-working skills from Assignment 1. You will apply vocal and movement skills to the creation of a piece of drama that will be rehearsed and performed to an audience. You will explore characterisation in class and independently through workshops, rehearsal and written tasks.</p>		
<p>Scenario: Your company has been asked to create a piece of reduced theatre for a larger showcase of drama, music and dance entitled 'A Night on the West End'. Using a famous musical show as your starting point, you will work with your company members to create a five-minute version that captures the 'essence' of the original show. You must identify and re-interpret key characters, dialogue and events to ensure that the piece is recognizable and entertaining for the audience.</p>		
<p>Assessment Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DVD of work in progress with tutor observation and learner comments (Nov 2010). • DVD of final pieces with tutor observation (16th December 2010). • Research/logbooks (5th January). 		
<p>Evidence to be generated (what you will hand in):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research/logbook (5th January 2011) 		<p>Grading Criteria: P2, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8 M2, M4, M5, M6, M7, M8 D2, D4, D5, D6, D7, D8</p>
<p>To achieve a pass grade you must:</p>	<p>To achieve a merit grade you must:</p>	<p>To achieve a distinction grade you must:</p>
<p>P2:use vocal skills in a way that is appropriate to the acting role with technical control</p>	<p>M2:use vocal skills in ways that demonstrate a good degree of technical control in an acting role</p>	<p>D2: demonstrate a strong technical command of vocal skills within an acting role</p>

P4: use movement skills in a way that is appropriate to the acting role with technical control	M4: use movement skills in ways that demonstrate a good degree of technical control in an acting role	D4: demonstrate a strong technical command of movement skills within an acting role
P5: demonstrate ways of exploring, researching and creating a character/role	M5: demonstrate responsive ways of exploring, researching and creating a character/role	D5: demonstrate highly flexible and creative ways of exploring, researching and creating a character/role
P6: develop a character and make decisions about interpretation	M6: develop a character and make considered decisions about interpretation	D6: develop a character which shows use of imagination and/or insight in the choices and decisions made about interpretation
P7: perform a role showing basic handling of the role with commitment	M7: perform a role that is handled with commitment and some attention to detail	D7: perform a role with focus, commitment, imagination and some sense of ease
P8: Communicate with an audience with occasional lapses in consistency	M8: communicate with an audience and remain focused and engaged in the drama	D8: communicate effectively with an audience and remain focused and engaged in the drama throughout

Tasks
<p>Task 1: Research, Devise and Rehearse (22st Oct – 15th Dec 2010)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will participate in a workshop about 'Reduced Theatre' (22nd Oct 2010) In a small group: plan, devise and rehearse a reduced version of a particular west end show; you will select content and form that is suitable to the genre of reduced theatre. As an individual: re-interpret and build your character using research and the rehearsal process. You should consider how you are using vocal and movement skills to give an imaginative portrayal, when self-assessing from DVD footage of work in progress. <p style="text-align: right;">This provides evidence for P2,P4,P6,M2,M4,M6,D2,D4,D6</p>
<p>Task 2: Create an Actor's Log (22nd Oct 2010 – 5th Jan 2011)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will record how you are developing your role with regular entries into a logbook. You should consult the Edexcel Study Skills Guide to help you. You should include character research, rehearsal diary entries, costume design and self-evaluation. <p style="text-align: right;">This provides evidence for P5,P6,M5,M6,D5,D6</p>

Task 4: Perform (15 & 16th December 2010)

- You will perform your pieces to a general public audience as part of the wider, scheduled show.

This provides evidence for P2,P4,P7,P8,M2,M4,M7,M8,D2,D4,D7,D8

Achieving higher marks:

To achieve M2,M4 and D2,D4, you must demonstrate that you are applying your developed vocal and movement skills to your acting role. You must develop your control of voice and body throughout the devising and rehearsal process, culminating in a clear and confident performance.

To achieve M5, M6 and D5, D6, your logbook must be well-detailed, giving evidence of your growing interpretation of the character and how you have developed this week-by-week. You should collect and use relevant research on the show/character; you should be building and shaping ideas about their background and motivations; You should think of imaginative and creative ways to explore and express your character. You must also show that you are setting yourself weekly targets and development points to ensure progression throughout the process.

To achieve M7, M8 and D7, D8 you must show real dedication throughout the rehearsal process, making the most of opportunities to evaluate your work and keep on improving upon the detail and clarity of the character as well as the performance as a whole. You will have planned for how the audience will respond to the drama, ensuring that the pace, tension, narrative and characters are recognizable, appropriate and provide a really entertaining experience.

This brief has been verified as being fit for purpose.

Assessor	L. Jack		
Signature	<i>L. Jack</i>	Date	04.09.2010
Internal Verifier	K. Mainwaring		
Signature	<i>K. Mainwaring</i>	Date	04.09.2010