

## **Drama Improvisation Tasks**

A great task to work on before starting Drama at Newark Academy is your improvisation skills. Improvisation is a skill used by actors to strengthen their confidence with performing in front of one another and also furthering their spontaneity skills.

*Improvisation – Improvisation is the activity of making or doing something not planned beforehand, using whatever can be found. Improvisation in the performing arts is a very spontaneous performance without specific or scripted preparation*

*Spontaneity – no pre planning is done beforehand*

## **Unfortunately/Fortunately**

Take it in turns around the circle to start off a conversation changing the beginning word to either 'unfortunately' and then 'fortunately'. The crazier the storyline the funnier it gets.

For example:

First person – Unfortunately my plane crashed into a deserted island

Second person – Fortunately I didn't break any bones

First person – Unfortunately I may have accidentally wet myself..

Second person – Fortunately my suitcase is here and I have spare pants

## **Park Bench**

If you ask any of my year 7's what their favourite task was within drama this year, they will probably say 'park bench'. This is a task I like to use at the beginning of a lesson to strengthen your confidence and also for us just to have a good laugh!

The rules – firstly, think of different types of characters and people you might see on a park bench .. you might say an old person or a homeless person – of course you'd be correct. However, how can we make these characters much more comedic? It could be a fitness instructor, it could be someone who has lost their job, it could even be a character who thinks aliens have landed in Newark! The more creative you can be the funnier the task.

Now that you have your characters, two people must sit on this park bench and you are not allowed to pre plan anything you are going to say as this would be cheating. This is a completely spontaneous activity.

You must improvise a conversation between the pair of you but you are not allowed to block the scene and by this I mean saying 'no'. If one of you decides to do star jumps because you are a fitness instructor, then the other person on the bench must do the star jumps with you. If you just said 'no I am not doing that' then unfortunately the scene would just end and that would be boring.

If there are other people within your family that can join in, one by one you can change the people within on the bench so that there is two people on there at one time.

Have fun and remember, don't say no!

## **Yes Let's**

Standing in a circle, each person individually sets a challenge and EVERYONE must say 'yes lets'. For example – 'let's do 10 press ups', everyone in the circle put say 'yes let's' and all do 10 press ups.