Production Function



Prepared by - Samuel Gonzalez

Date - 1/24/21

(VIDEO MUST BE 10-16 MINUTES LONG)

OBJECTIVE

The students will be able to apply their knowledge of the different elements of production by using real-world examples to analyze the relationships within a production.

VOCABULARY

- Director - person in charge, with the overall vision
- Designer - a person who plans the form, look, or workings of something before its being made or built, typically by drawing it in detail
- Stage Manager - the person responsible for all of the goings-on for a play
- Crew - a group of people who work on and operate everything in a play
- Set - scenery and other properties used to identify the location of a dramatic production
- Costumes - clothing worn to portray the wearer as a character
- Lighting - lights that shine on the stage in order to see the actors and the set
- Sound - establishes the time or location of a performance, creates mood and atmosphere
- Backstage - the area behind the stage and especially in the dressing rooms
- Pit - the area located in a lowered area in front of the stage in which musicians perform
- Booth - the area designated for the operation of technical equipment
- House - where the audience sits
- Makeup - used to assist in creating the appearance of the characters

TEKS

(3) Creative expression: production. The student applies design, directing, and theatre production concepts and skills. The student is expected to:

(A) identify technical theatre elements such as props, costumes, sound, and visual elements that define character, environment, action, and theme;

(1)Foundations: inquiry and understanding. The student develops concepts about self, human relationships, and the environment using elements of drama and conventions of theatre. The student is expected to:

(G) demonstrate correct use of basic theatrical terminology.

MATERIALS NEEDED

1. TV or Projector
2. Computer
3. *optional: Costumes/Props for Principal, Counselor, Teachers, and Students

WARM UPS (RECOMMEND 3 MINUTES)

4. Let's Get the Rhythm!

Leader : TA

The leader will guide the students in a song-like warm up that gets the group moving together in unison. Here's the chant:

"Let's get the rhythm, hey!
Let's get the rhythm, hey!
Let's get the rhythm of the eyes, eyes!
We've got the rhythm of the eyes, eyes!
Let's get the rhythm of the voice, ah!
We've got the rhythm of the voice, ah!
*Let's get the rhythm of the hands, *clap clap clap*!*
*We've got the rhythm of the hands, *clap clap clap*!*
Let's get the rhythm of the hips, woo!
We've got the rhythm of the hips, woo!
Let's get the rhythm of the knees, knees!
We've got the rhythm of the knees, knees!
*Let's get the rhythm of the feet, *stomp stomp stomp*!*
*We've got the rhythm of the feet, *stomp stomp stomp*!*
Let's get the rhythm of the body, body!
We've got the rhythm of the body, body!"

While doing the chant, the group will do different motions for each different section of the warm up.

Here's an example video:

5. Obstacle Course

Leader: TA

In this video format, the TA's will team up to create this obstacle course. Begin with one TA choosing an obstacle (monkey bars, walking a tightrope, jumping across rocks), The TA's will follow this person in their obstacle of choice. Next, another TA will add another obstacle and everyone will repeat both of them together, always beginning at the first obstacle. Continue with each TA and always remember to go back to the beginning and work your way to the newest obstacles.

INTRODUCTION

Leader: TA

Use this introduction section to explain to the students that in today's lesson, we are going to learn about the different parts of a production. Behind every show that you'll ever see is a collaborative team of diverse people that work together to create what we call a production. In this lesson, we will learn about the different elements of production, as well as the different people that serve different roles in a production.

ACTIVITY I (RECOMMEND 3 MINUTES)

Title: The Anatomy of a Production

Leader: TA

In this activity, the different elements will be introduced to the students. First begin by explaining how it is necessary to have different people in charge of different parts of the production, so in the end all the different pieces of a show come together to create the production. Attached is a powerpoint link that can be used to give supplemental visuals for the children. While conducting this activity, display the powerpoint behind the presenter. In addition, as presenters, use your own body to make physical motions to show where the various body parts are. (Ex: point to the head when describing how the director is the brain.)

Powerpoint-
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1xnkD16J0DrjeWxCva4PWZN9A64Viz2zF1BHi4g9c4h4/edit?usp=sharing

- At the top of the list is the director; the director is the person in charge with the overall vision. They are like the brains of the production. The director is in charge of bringing together the elements of a production. Some of their roles include casting the show, interpreting the script, planning rehearsals, and collaborating with designers.
- The next part of a production is the designers. The designers are the people who plan the form, look, or workings of something before its being made or built, typically by drawing it in detail. These are like the different organs in the body. Much like each organ serves its own function, there are different types of designers in the show, such as lighting, sound, scenic, and costume. The costume designers will create the outfits worn by the characters

on stage. The lighting and sound designers will focus on the technological elements of the show, creating different lighting and sound designs for the show. The scenic designers will create the physical set of the show.

- The next element of production is the stage manager; this is the person who is responsible for all of the goings-on for a play. They are like the heart that keeps the blood flowing through the body, and will communicate with the brain to make sure certain areas are functioning properly.
- Next is the cast and crew. Just like the muscles and bones in the body, these are the groups of people who work on and operate everything in a play, and who also perform in the show.
- Finally, explain some other important parts of production:
    - Backstage - the area behind the stage and especially in the dressing rooms
    - Pit - the area located in a lowered area in front of the stage in which musicians perform
    - Booth - the area designated for the operation of technical equipment
    - House - where the audience sits

ACTIVITY II (RECOMMEND 3 MINUTES)

Title: A School is a Production??? YES!

Leader: TA

In this activity, the TA's will lead the students in a game that will compare the elements of production with a real life example that they are familiar with: a school! This can be connected by explaining that productions function in the same way that a school does.

Start with the highest person in charge at a school: the principal. Ask the students which element of the production is most similar to the principal in their school, then leave a pause and give the answer (which is the director). Continue using the same format:

- Designer- like the teachers in the school; each teacher teaches a different subject, like each designer will design a different aspect (Math=Sound, English=Sound, Science=History)

- Stage Manager- like the counselor at the student's school, they interact with all the parts of the production (or all the teachers) to make sure everything is running smoothly
- Crew/Cast- these are the students; they work and operate everything in the plway
- Backstage- the classroom; this is where the students learn much like where the actors and crew prepare to perform in a production

Since this is a video, one way to engage the students is by roleplaying the different roles in a school. The following actions will be recorded in pantomime and will be shown in the video as the previous comparison of production to a school will be played through voice over. Start by having one person play the part of the principal. Then, show them giving paperwork and orders to the counselor. In a new clip, show the counselor handing each of the teachers their own work and making sure that everything is being done as it should be. In the final clip, show one of the teachers teaching the students in a classroom.

CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING (RECOMMEND 2 MINUTES)

Title: It's Showtime!

Leader: TA

This activity will put the students in the shoes of the cast and crew members of a production. The TAs will follow a script that has options embedded in the story that will test the students; knowledge of the different parts of a production.

It is a new day at Lantrip Theatre Company and unlike every other day, today is a very special day because it is……..drum roll please…..opening night of our production of The Lion King! We are all very excited to perform, but before we do, we must make sure that everything is running smoothly and everyone is prepared. (Question 1) When we arrive at the theatre, we must first sign-in so we make it known that we are here to who? The audience or the stage manager? The stage manager, that's right! We would need to let the stage manager know we are here because they are responsible for all that goes on in a play, while the audience serves as the spectators of the show. Now, we head to the booth to find the sign in sheet. Wait a second...the sign-in sheet isn't in the booth! (Question 2) The sign in sheet is where the actors and crew prepare for the production. This is at the house or backstage? Backstage! We wouldn't go to the house because that is where the audience sits during a production. Now that we have signed in we must head to our dressing rooms to put on our costumes and get ready for the show. You put on your lion

costume but you realize that you are missing a very important piece of your costume...your tail! (Question 3) Immediately you search backstage but can't find it, so who do you turn to? The lighting designer or the costume designer? The costume designer! The designers have specific duties which correspond with certain parts of the show. Luckily they had a few extra tails in case this happened, so the problem has been solved. Now that you're fully ready to take the stage, the entire cast and crew meet backstage before the curtains open. Since this is opening night, we get a very special pre-show pep-talk from the person in charge of the show with the overall vision….who is this? The director! They wish us a great show and it is now time to break a leg!

PSEUDO-CIRCLE TIME (RECOMMEND 2 MINUTES)

What did you learn?

What part of production interests you the most?

What is your favorite pizza topping?

END OF VIDEO!