

The background features a large, semi-transparent 3D grid of small, light-colored spheres connected by thin white lines, creating a perspective effect that recedes towards the top right. The grid is set against a solid purple background.

Improvisation

Improv...

- Improvisation – a spontaneous style of theatre using unrehearsed and unscripted acting scenes. In improv, actors bring imaginary circumstances to life through action and dialogue.
- Improv is a form of acting.
- You will learn to “think on your feet.” The more you participate in improv, the better you will be.

How will this help me?

- Great opportunities to work together.
- Develop and create characters with others.
- Develop concentration. The more you listen, the easier it will be to respond to the action.
Listening and responding are acting fundamentals.
- Exercise imagination – you can take a scene anywhere you want!
- Become more self-confident.

Improv is fun!

- Scenes – short situation to be acted out with a beginning, middle and end.
- Relax and have fun!
- Be spontaneous with your classmates! But stay school appropriate.

Parts of an Improvisation – Just like writing a book

- Beginning – introduce us to your characters, establish a setting for the scene and set up the conflict. First few lines should let us know past information that could be crucial to the improv.
- Conflict – the problem or obstacles a character must overcome.
- Middle – conflict becomes more complicated as each character established what they need. Each character must have their needs established through dialogue. This must be believable.
- End – end of the improv where characters solve the problem and conclude the scene.

Guidelines for Improvisation

- These guidelines are important as it makes the improv looked rehearsed and planned.
1. Before you begin your scene, get in your huddle with your group and make decisions. Decide who you are and what you want and what is your relationship with the other characters. Draw on real-life characters for help of developing characters. Avoid stereotypes.
 2. Communicate who you are through your character's action and dialogue.

Guidelines for Improv Cont.

3. Remain as the same character throughout the scene. Breaking character happens when you say or do something that is inconsistent with the character you are portraying. Ex: laughing, changing voices, consistent physical traits.
4. Begin with enthusiasm!
5. All actors should participate in dialogue.
6. Pay attention! Listen to what is said so you can add to what is going on. When you actually listen and not think about when you are going to talk, it'll be easier to jump into the action.

Guidelines for Improv Cont.

7. Remember to keep dialogue moving.
Don't let the scene die prematurely. Don't be overbearing though.
8. Avoid "dead-end" phrases, such as, "No", "OK" and "So." These words make it difficult to respond.
9. Avoid questions that can be answered with a "Yes" or "No." That is another way to kill the improv.

Guidelines for Improv Cont.

10. Always look for a way to end the scene. When the natural ending occurs, let it happen. Don't try to stop it.
11. Do not disagree with each other on stage.
12. Don't deny yourself. If you have an instinct, go with it!
13. Show us the action of the scene. Don't tell us about it.
14. Never "showboat." No over acting here. Be real, be your character.

Guidelines for Improv Cont.

15. Use your environment to your advantage. Do not neglect your environment. You don't want the audience to wonder where you are. Use props or one another as props to create your environment, if you aren't already in your ideal environment.
16. "Curtain" – a verbal command for beginning or end of scene.
17. "Freeze" – a verbal command given by the director to stop the dialogue and movement in a scene.

Role-Playing

- Role-playing – trying on the role of others, or assuming the part of another person in society.
- Role-playing helps you expand your way of looking at things and strengthens your decision making skills.
- You do this most often in dramatic improvs.