

## Knowledge Organiser – Year 10 – Improvisation

### Overview of Topic

You will work practically to explore the different drama techniques and skills that can be used in improvisation. You will learn the difference between spontaneous and rehearsed improvisation and begin devising pieces ready for Component 1 of the course.

### KEY TERMS

**Improvisation** refers to the process of creating a piece of drama from scratch. A stimulus may be given to act as a starting point and generate ideas. The drama is then created using a variety of drama techniques to help create the structure and form.

**Spontaneous improvisation** – the improvisation happens without any rehearsal and actors have to think quickly to create the scene/s.

**Rehearsed improvisation** – Performers have **time** to create and rehearse the scenes before showing to an audience.

#### ROLE PLAY

Performers play a character that is different from themselves and use a range of characterisation skills to help portray the role.

**LANGUAGE OF THE ROLE** – this refers to the type of language and word choices made by the playwright/actor. Language can say a lot about a character, including social class, educational background, emotional state, relationships with others, nationality and profession.



#### Style & Genre

**Naturalistic**  
**Stylised**

**Brechtian**  
**Abstract**

**Physical**

### Key Words

**Accepting** – Responding positively to another performer's suggestion for a line of dialogue or action within the drama. Allowing the drama to flow.

**Body Language** – How a performer uses their posture and positioning to display how a character behaves or feels.

**Blocking** – Not allowing the drama to flow or be added to.

**Characterisation** – Physical and vocal skills that are used to portray a role

**Dialogue** – The words or speech that a character says

**Facial Expressions** – The different moods and emotions of a character shown facially

**Gesture** – The hand movements made by the actor to accompany emotions or language.

**Movement** – How you use your body and space in a piece of drama

**Stimulus** – A thing that acts as a starting point. In drama it could be a word, phrase, music or script.

**Style** – The genre or type of improvisation that is being created.