



How to Act Out a Character or Scene from a Story

KS2 ENGLISH

DRAMA

LITERACY

Ages 9-12 ⌚ 3 min read

What Does It Mean to Act Out a Scene?

Acting out a scene means bringing the words and actions from a story to life by speaking and moving like the **characters** do. When you perform a scene, you're not just reading the words on a page — you're becoming that person and showing the audience what the story looks like when it happens in real life.

Think of it like turning a comic book into a movie. The words stay the same, but now you can see and hear the characters actually doing things.

Getting to Know Your Character

Before you perform, spend time understanding who your character is. Read their lines carefully and ask yourself questions: **What do they want? How do they feel? Are they happy, angry, scared, or confused?** The way a character behaves tells you a lot about what's happening inside their mind.

Look at what other characters say about your character too. This gives you clues about how they should act. If everyone describes a character as brave, you should move and speak confidently. If a character is nervous, you might fidget or speak quietly.

Using Your Body and Voice

Body language is how you use your face, arms, and posture to show feelings. If your character is sad, you might slump your shoulders and look down. If they're excited, you could jump around and smile widely. **Facial expressions** are just as important — your face should match how your character feels.

Your **voice** is another powerful tool. You can speak quickly or slowly, loudly or quietly. A villain might speak in a deep, menacing voice, while a child character might speak in a higher, lighter voice. Try saying the same line in different ways to see how it changes the meaning.

Think of it like turning up the volume or changing the temperature — small changes make a big difference.

Bringing It All Together

When you perform, **connect with other actors** on stage. Look at them, listen to them, and react to what they're doing. The best performances feel real and natural, not robotic or forced. Practice your scene several times before you perform it, so you know exactly what's happening and why.

Remember: there's no single **right** way to act a scene. Different actors will perform the same character differently, and that's wonderful. What matters most is that you understand your character, use your body and voice expressively, and have fun bringing the story to life.