

## INTRODUCTIONS (0:00 - 0:10)

### a) Verbal introduction of educator, CCD, and topic. (0:00 - 0:02)

*Hi! I'm Trisha and I'm here with Compass Creative Dramatics, a company that puts on plays and teaches theatre to kids like you. Today, we are going to be talking about drama detectives. Has anyone heard of a dramaturg before? Does anyone have any guesses as to what it might mean?*

*The word "dramaturgy" is made up of two parts. Drama is another word for theatre. "Turgy" means the "study of". As a dramaturg, I work on a show as kind of a theatre detective. When the director or the actors have a question about the play that they are working on, they ask a dramaturg. A dramaturg will look at the script of the play, and any other information about the play and be a detective to find the answer to the questions.*

### b) Expectations: "Give respect to get respect," "Everybody plays," "Serious fun" (0:02 - 0:05)

*Before we get started, there are three expectations I want everyone to keep in mind during our class today.*

*First, we give respect to get respect. Say that with me: "Give respect to get respect." That means that we are going to be respectful of all of our teammates, whether students or teachers, and that we have the right to expect our teammates to be respectful of our ideas and our bodies.*

*Our second expectation is that everybody plays. We are going to do a few different games and activities today, and you may get super excited about some of them, but not as excited about others. But all of us are going to participate today, because while we are in this class, we are all teammates learning about Dramaturgy. Cool? Cool.*

*Finally, today we are going to have some serious fun. That means that we have a lot to accomplish, and a lot of work to do to get there, but we are going to have a lot of fun while we do it!*

### c) Introduction of students. (0:05 - 0:10)

*I would love it if we could get to know our teammates a little better. Could we all go around and say our name, the grade we are going into, and our favorite flavor of ice cream? For example, my name is Trisha. I am going into my senior year of college, and my favorite flavor of ice cream is cake batter.*

## WARM-UP ACTIVITIES (0:10-0:20)

### a) Quick Change Artist (0:10-0:20)

*As a dramaturg and as a detective, we have to be really great observers because we are the ones who watch the shows and notice how and why things have changed. We are going to practice that in this next game*

- 1.) Students form a circle.
- 2.) Pick one or two students (if they are shy) to stand in the middle of the circle for 20 seconds. Everyone else should try to memorize aspects of this person's outfit and appearance.
- 3.) The center student should then go out in the hall and quickly change three aspects of their appearance before coming back to the center of the circle.
- 4.) Students have to guess what aspects of their appearance was changed.

*Why would it be important for a theatre detective to be a good observer?*

*We have to be able to catch all of the clues within the script and the show on the stage in order to answer some of the questions that we have. If the director is asking me to watch their show and they ask me questions, I had to really be paying attention during the show to make sure I catch everything to be able to answer.*

*Were there some clues that were easier to find than other ones?*

*Yeah, that happens a lot for a dramaturg too. And that is a good thing to notice. How easy or hard something was to figure out can give us as theatre-makers a good clue as to how easy or hard it will be for an audience to understand something.*

## Questions (0:20-0:30)

*What are question words? What are words that we use to ask questions?  
Who, what, why, when, how,*

- 1.) Everyone forms even (or close to) lines parallel from each other
- 2.) The two heads of the line get a suggestion for a setting (grocery store, zoo, etc.)
- 3.) They start a scene but can only converse in questions
- 4.) The first person to not be able to think of a question or say something that is not phrased as a question, goes to the back of their line. The “winner” stays at the head of the line to start a new scene with the other head of the line
- 5.) After “winning” twice in a row, the head of the line must go to the back of the line anyway
- 6.) Continue to cycle through until everybody has an opportunity to go.

*Why is it important to ask questions?*

*We need to ask questions in order to figure out things! While a dramaturg often works to answer questions, we also ask a lot of questions just like any good detective would. And a lot of detectives find that once you answer one thing, it creates more questions for you to answer.*

*Is it good detective work if we just told people things instead of asking about them?*

*No, we need to ask questions because sometimes by asking questions we figure out things that we would have never realized with our own assumptions. We sometimes think we know what's going on without all of the information, so it is important to ask questions first in order to make sure we have all the information*

### **Press Conference (0:30-0:40)**

*Now, we are going to use our detective work as a team to help tell a story! How can we tell a story through questions and this type of detective work.*

- 1.) You all are reports from the media.
- 2.) A press conference is when someone has important news to share with the media, they ask questions and these conference people answer.
- 3.) The kids will give the instructors a room in the school and then they will be sent away. Other instructor leads the press to decide what happened.
- 4.) The press must choose a common story that everyone knows (Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, etc)
- 5.) Decide what happened and they call you back in.
- 6.) Come in as though it is a press conference, and answer question. IF their answers, which are out of the blue, answer correctly then the press will cheer, if you are getting further away than the crowd will boo.
- 7) Try to get the person to guess what story was chosen.

*Did we want our teammate to guess our story?  
How did we help them guess it?*

*By asking questions! A lot of times a dramaturg helps other people find answers by asking them questions about their own work!*

### **CONCLUSION (0:40-0:45)**

*Can someone tell me what a dramaturg is?*

*We are play detectives, we help put together clues and answer questions as well as ask them!*

*What are some tools that a dramaturg uses to be good detectives?*