

GLOSSARY OF DRAMA TECHNIQUES

voice, body, movement and use of space

VOICE	
Pitch	the highness or lowness of a sound
Pace	the rate at which words are spoken
Pause	where sound stops, how often and for how long
Projection	enables audience to hear the voice
Volume	how loudly/softly the words are spoken
Articulation	clarity of voice
Tone	the feeling/emotion in the voice
Cueing	when to speak
Inflection	the rise and fall of a voice
Accent	particular to a country/society/culture
Breathing	to allow a controlled use of voice, to convey a feeling e.g a sigh or gasp
Repetition	repeating a sound or words for emphasis
Emphasis	choosing to stress particular words to convey meaning
BODY	
Posture	stance, way of standing
Gesture	movement of any part of the body to express idea, feeling or mood
Body awareness	ability to select appropriate use of body on stage, choosing to use the whole body, or isolated parts of the body expressively
Facial expression	using the face to show mood, emotion, feeling and responses
Eye contact	establishing eye contact with another actor or the audience
MOVEMENT	
Timing	fast or slow tempo, when you move (kinaesthetic response), duration (length) of movement
Direction	where you are going: forwards, backwards, diagonal, sideways
Energy	how you move, the amount of force, the mood expressed through movement
Ensemble awareness	moving as part of a group, proximity to other actors, responding to other actors' movement
Pathways	the pattern of movement you create in the space, e.g curved, straight or zig-zag pathways
Repetition	Repeating a movement or recycling a movement for emphasis
SPACE	
Levels	low, medium, high
Personal space	your own space, the bubble immediately around your body, how you use this space
General space	all other space in the room, how you use this space.
Architecture	the physical structures of the space you are in and within the space, how you use and interact with these structures
Proximity	the amount of distance or space between actors, the amount of space between actors and audience

