

Drama: Devising and Blood Brothers | Year 11 | January - April

Vocal Skills			Devising			Physical Skills		
1	Pitch	The particular level (high or low) of a voice, instrument or tune.	1	Stimulus	A stimulus is a starting point or trigger to generate ideas.	1	Facial Expression	Look on face which shows emotions.
2	Pace	The speed at which someone or something moves, or with which something happens or changes.	2	Dramatic aims and intentions	This refers to the decisions, made by theatre makers, to communicate deeper meaning through their work.	2	Body Language	A range of nonverbal signals that you can use to communicate your feelings and intentions.
3	Pause	A break in speaking, period of silence.	3	Monologue	An extended speech by one person. It is a speech given by a single character in a story. In drama, it is the vocalization of a character's thoughts	3	Gesture	A sign that communicates a character's action, state of mind and relationship with other characters to an audience.
4	Tone	This suggests your mood and your intention towards the listener, eg happy or sad.	Blood Brothers			4	Posture	Physical alignment of a performer's body, or a physical stance taken by a performer which conveys information about the character being played.
5	Volume	Loudness or quietness of the voice.	1	Willy Russell	Playwright for Blood Brothers. Comes from a working class family. Grew up just outside Liverpool. Many plays written by Russell feature working class characters and show themes of class divisions.	5	Levels	They show action in a different place/time and can reflect relationships.
6	Emphasis	Where a performer will stress a particular word or phrase within a sentence to indicate importance.	2	Premiere	First performed in Liverpool in 1983 and then in London's West End in 1988.	6	Gait	A person's manner of walking.
7	Accent	A way of speaking in a local area or country.	3	When and where is it set?	Blood Brothers is set in Liverpool in the period between the 1960s and the 1980s.			
8	Clarity of diction	Clearness of the voice.	4	Main characters	Mickey Johnstone and Edward Lyons, and their mothers Mrs Johnstone and Mrs Lyons. Mickey and Edward's friend Linda, who becomes Mickey's wife, is also an important character.			

Act One, Parts 1 and 2

- The play opens with Mickey and Edward's deaths. This is a flash forward to the end of the play.
- Mrs Johnstone is persuaded by Mrs Lyons to give her one of her twins.
- Mrs Lyons threatens Mrs Johnstone and then fires her.

Act One, Parts 3 and 4

- Time has moved forward; Mickey and Edward are now seven years old.
- Mickey and Edward meet and, when they discover they share the same birthday, become blood brothers by making a tiny cut on their hands and mingling their blood. This makes a pact between them to remain friends for life.
- Both families, unbeknown to each other, move from Liverpool to a new town in the country.

Act Two, Part 3

- Mickey and Linda get married and are having a baby.
- The boys fall out because Mickey has had to grow up too quickly and Edward has not.
- Mickey commits a crime with Sammy and goes to jail.
- Mickey becomes addicted to antidepressants.

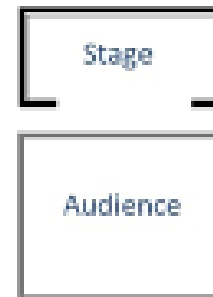
Act Two, Parts 1 and 2

- Act Two starts seven years on from where Act One ended.
- We see the contrasting education and school experiences of Mickey and Edward. Edward attends a private school, while Mickey goes to a state secondary modern school.
- Mickey and Edward meet up again as young adults and rekindle their friendship.
- Mrs Lyons violently attacks Mrs Johnstone.

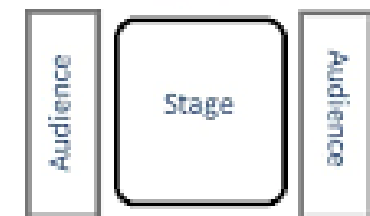
Act Two, Part 4

- Edward and Linda start an affair.
- Mrs Johnstone tells Edward and Mickey they are brothers.
- Mickey accidentally shoots Edward and is then shot by the police.

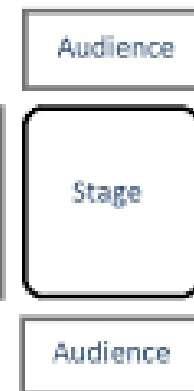
End on/
Proscenium



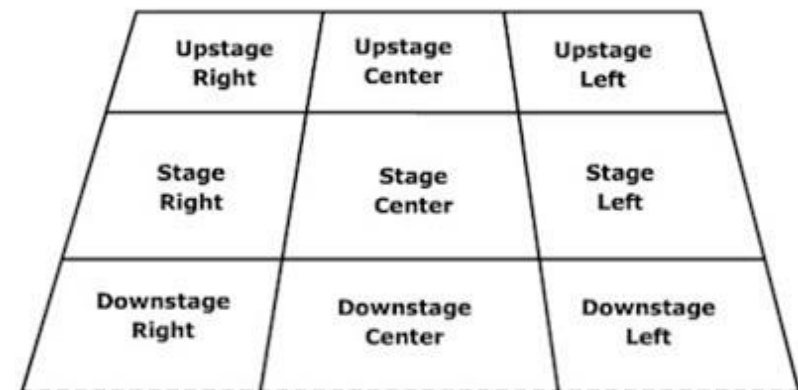
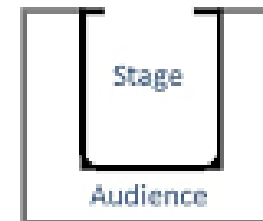
Traverse



In the Round



Thrust



Audience