

One Line, Many Targets

Skills focus: Interpretation | Characterisation | Vocal Variety | Audience Awareness
Useful for: Performing Shakespeare

 Purpose and Impact	Resources
Objectives: - To develop more precise performance choices. - To deepen understanding of character intention and dramatic context. - To strengthen vocal and physical expression. Impact: Develops interpretation, character awareness and performance precision. Students learn how changing the intended audience can alter the meaning and impact of a line.	Resources Needed - Single-line Shakespeare quotations - Optional performance space Additional resources - ESU Shakespeare Statement Bank - Target prompt cards (optional)

TASK

Setup

- Give a student a short Shakespeare line.
- Ensure they understand any unfamiliar vocabulary.
- Choose a target for whom they are delivering the line.

Activity

- The student performs the line.
- Repeat the line with a different target (e.g. another character, themselves, the audience).
- Encourage students to adjust their voice, facial expressions and body language.
- Compare how the meaning changes with each target.

Evaluate

-  Which target felt most convincing?
-  How did the performance choices change?
-  What did each version reveal about the character?

 Differentiation and Progression		
KS3 Use familiar quotations and obvious relationships between characters. Focus on clear vocal and physical choices. Allocate time for feedback	KS4 Introduce more complex motivations and require students to justify their interpretation.	KS5/Sixth form Challenge students to explore multiple interpretations of the same line and evaluate which best fits the dramatic context.