

IMPROVISATION

Stand-Up Comedy Assignment

ASSIGNMENT

Prepare a stand-up comedy routine by going through the four steps.

1. Observe the professionals.
2. Draw from your own personal experience
3. Write the routine.
4. Rehearse the routine.

RULES FOR PERFORMING

1. NO brown bagging. This includes cursing, sexual innuendoes, or anything crossing the educational theatre line. When in doubt, ask. Any brown bagging will result in loss of points.
2. NO personal names. Unless it is your family, don't use personal names of students, friends, teachers or others in a negative or derogative manner that may be offensive.
3. Time Limit: 5 minutes.
4. Work the Crowd: Talk to the audience.... ask them questions.... get them to respond to you right away. Start with introducing yourself and make a connection to the audience. Use current events, a close holiday, anything that the audience can relate to. This will help start your routine and also help with transitions throughout the routine. Be sure to say thank you or something to end the routine. Just don't walk off.
5. Movement: Keep it limited when performing. Don't wander around on the stage. Stay within one general area of the stage unless demonstrating or acting out something.
6. Voice: Must use an expressive voice with vocal variety to keep people interested. Be sure you can be heard on stage... use projection!!!!
7. No hats, gum, etc. when performing.
8. Note cards are ok to use on stage. This does NOT have to be memorized, although it is suggested that you know it well enough so you don't read from the cards.
9. NO COPYWRITED MATERIAL. That means you are not allowed to copy or plagiarize any material off the Internet, from any social forum or from any comedian's routine whether its recorded, scripted or otherwise. That does not mean you can't use the same content, like the category "travel" but it should relate to YOUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE. All material should be original. Any material found to be plagiarized or copied from another source will receive a ZERO, the parent will be notified and you will receive an "I" for citizenship.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Fill out the work sheet for this assignment and turn it with your material the day of the performance along with your notecards.