

Listening

Educational Objective: The students will demonstrate their ability to improve their stage communication by learning to listen through a listening performance.

Materials Needed: Three unrelated objects.

Hook: Sit on the floor in a circle and play the telephone game. Whisper a sentence to a student and have that person whisper it to the next and so on until the end. The final student says it out loud. They only get one chance.

Step 1: Discuss why the phrase changed during the game. Did they listen or were they heard?

Step 2: Stay in the circle. Play the “This is my...” game. Pass an object around the circle. Each person must say “This is my (and make up what it is) and do an action with the object to show what it is. (Example: Object – pencil – “this is my grave digger.” The student demonstrates who to use is as a shovel). No one can laugh or smile while holding the object. They cannot say anything that has been said already. They must listen. Play 3 rounds with different objects.

Step 3: Discuss the skills needed to play the game. Direct the discussion to listening.

Step 4: Have the students get with their scene partners. Have them go through their scene but have the first actor say the first line and then the second actor repeat the first line and say the second line, then the first actor repeat the second line and say the third line and so on going through the scene so each actor says the line before his or her own. Go around listening.

Step 5: Have the students choose a line in the first part of their scene that they will change so that his partner will have to react to the change. Have them perform that part of the scene for the class. Discuss each with the actors and audience.

Step 6: Discuss the importance of Listening.