

## Pantomime 2 – A Simple Task

**Educational Objective:** The students will demonstrate their ability to use the basic principals of pantomime by performing a simple task.

**Materials Needed:** Assignment slip for each student

**Hook:** Do the “Team Lift.” Divide the players into groups of eleven. Pick a group and ask for a volunteer. Have the volunteer from the group lay down and cross their arms in front of their chest. The others surround the one lying on the ground, one at the head, one at the feet, and four on each side. The player lying down repeats, “I AM!” The others shout his name! They repeat this about five times and then bend down and lift the person above their heads. The person being lifted must keep their eyes opened. They hold him up there for about 5 repeats of “I AM!” “Joe!” They must not stop repeating this. Have everyone be lifted.

**Step 1:** Review the click and the spacing of objects.

**Step 2:** Tell them that when we do a pantomime you need to face the audience. There is a big tendency to turn your back on the audience because that's how things "really" are. To show an example, set up your kitchen with chairs or blocks. Show that some things are in front and some in back. Demonstrate how easy it is to turn your back on the audience. Now rearrange the kitchen so your face can be seen by the audience no matter what appliance or counter you are working at.

**Step 3:** As an example, perform a pantomime of doing a house hold chore (making a cake or doing dishes, etc.) Make sure it is between 1 and 2 minutes and no story.

**Step 4:** Give them the assignment. They must perform a short pantomime without a story - a simple task. It should be something that they are very familiar with. Remind them that there is to be no vulgarizes and no using the bathroom. They will be graded on 1) Time 1-2 min., 2) Giving appropriate space, 3) Believable actions, 4) No turning back on audience, and 5) The click. Give them 20 - 25 minutes to practice and prepare.

**Step 5:** Have everyone perform. This will probably be a separate day and it may take more than one day.

**No Story Pantomime Assignment:**

You will perform a pantomime of a simple everyday task in front of the class:

- 1-2 minutes long
- No partners
- Give appropriate space to objects
- Use believable actions
- Do not turn your back on your audience
- Do not tell a story (no conflict)
- Use “the click”

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