"FOLLOW THE WEBQUEST ROAD": EXPLORING THE WORLD OF SPEECH & DRAMA

INTRODUCTION:

There are many aspects and tools involved with understanding and applying speech and drama. These two mediums go hand in hand. This website was designed to give you an opportunity to explore the basics of the world of speech and drama. So, my fellow thespians, let's Follow the WebQuest Road to learn more about what the world of speech and drama has to offer!

TASK:
In order to become the best thespian (actor or actress) that you can be, you must first get an understanding of the working language of the theatre world. Also, knowing how to verbally communicate with an audience using speech and vocal techniques is of the utmost importance. As you work through this web quest, think about why it is necessary to develop skills in speech and drama and what would you do with the skills once you acquire them? Other questions you could ask yourself are:

What does it take to be a successful actor or actresses?
What skills do I need to be a better actor?
Who is involved in putting together a play?
How can I use my speech and drama skills in other classes or events?
Now, you and a partner or two can complete a task at each stop on the WebQuest Road. Please answer all questions along the way! Be sure to be as true as you can to all script readings so that you will get the most out of this experience. After completing this web quest, you will have made a great leap to being the presenter, speaker, actor or actress you want to be.

**PROCESS:**

1. The first place I would like for you to visit is the Tongue Twister warm-up site. I would like for you and your partner(s) to read out loud the passages presented. Next, read the passage again, but faster, without any reading errors. Please make sure you take in enough breath throughout the exercise! What do you think the purpose of this exercise is? Write your answer and discuss with partner(s).

   [http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/tt_list.htm](http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/tt_list.htm)

2. Now, let’s learn some words used in the theatre world. Please write, at least, ten words (that are completely unfamiliar to you) along with their definitions. Here, you are working separately. After you are done, share and discuss your list with your partner(s). These lists should not be identical.

   [http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/terms.htm](http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/terms.htm)

3. After having a bit of fun warming up a bit and familiarizing yourself with some dramatic terms, now’s your chance to put some of this preparation into action. Travel to this next site to practice a bit of scene work. Be sure to be as true or to commit to the lines as much as possible. You and your partner(s) should agree who is playing what part. Read the first scene through once, then, again, switching roles. Do the same for the next two scenes! Feel free to stage any one of the scenes! Did the vocal/speech warm-up help you? Did you and your partner(s) use any drama vocabulary as you worked?

   [http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/dialogues.htm](http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/dialogues.htm)

4. Now, it’s time for you to become familiar with basic speech terms and definitions. Learning the basics of speech writing and presentation helps with your development as an actor. The opposite is also true. Go to the following
website, write each word and its definition along with how it directly relates to acting.

http://sbinfocanada.about.com/od/speakforsuccesscourse/a/speechterms.htm

5. Congratulations, you are moving very well through this quest! Now, it’s time to learn how to prepare and organize a speech. Check out the next site to learn more. What could be an attention getter for a speech? In your opinion, what are the purposes for making a speech? What does K.I. stand for? Give an example.

http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/speechprep.htm

6. As an actor, you need to have an idea of what the “stage” is really like. On this journey you can experience this. Just travel through the virtual tours of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. and Governors State University’s Center for the Performing Arts. Explore the many facets of a real theatre. Write down five aspects of the theatre that impressed you most!

http://www.kennedy-center.org/about/virtual_tour/ike.html
   (follow instructions underneath picture, and click on any of the available tours on the left, underlined in red)

http://www.centertickets.net/about_us.aspx?id=3236
   (for this site, click on “Slide Show”)

7. Now, that you have become such an expert of the dramatic art, why not try your hand of creating your very own television show! (Boys, although this is a site directed at girls, you must complete this step also) Feel free to work with your partner(s) for this step. What did you learn about creating a story for television? What are the basic elements of your story? (plot, character,
setting, etc.) What kinds of skills would you look for in the actors performing your show?


EXTRA CREDIT:

8.) Earn a “star” on Ms. Randle’s Walk of Fame by going to the following site to locate her film credits! Did you know she is an actor?

http://us.imdb.com/

CONCLUSION:

Congratulations! You have successfully completed “Follow the WebQuest Road!” You have equipped yourself with basic tools needed to be successful as an actor. How will you use what you have learned about speech and drama in the future? What was the most difficult part of this quest? Please visit the following website for many more tools, references and resources.

http://monroe.k12.la.us/mcs/hot_list/speech.html

RESOURCES:
http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/dialogues.htm (generic dialogues)
http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/speechprep.htm (speech prep and organization)
http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/tt_list.htm (tongue twister warm-up)
http://www.geocities.com/jp_collier/terms.htm (acting terminology)
http://www.kennedy-center.org/about/virtual_tour/ike.html (John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts)
http://sbinfocanada.about.com/od/speakforsuccesscourse/a/speechterms.htm (speech terms and definitions)

http://www.centertickets.net/about_us.aspx?id=3236 (Governors State University's Center for Performing Arts)

http://monroe.k12.la.us/mcs/hot_list/speech.html (speech and drama sites/tons of info)

http://www.girlsinc.org/gc/page.php?id=3 (site for girls to create their own TV show)

http://us.imdb.com/ (find Ms. Randle's Biography for extra credit)