

## KEYWORDS AND CONVENTIONS

**Breaking the fourth wall:** is where the wall between the audience and actors on stage is broken by actors interacting with the audience.

**Theme:** This is a recurring idea that is present throughout the script/piece of work.

**Space and Levels:** Levels are the different heights at which performers place themselves, often to show their status. Space and levels can reflect mood and are used to create interesting effects.

**Narration:** is where one or more performers speak directly to the audience to tell a story, give information or comment on the action of the scene or the motivations of characters.

**Direct Address:** is when a character (or a group of characters) speak directly to the audience rather than speaking to another character on stage.

**Spatial Relationships:** can help you show one character's feelings towards another by considering the space between them.

**Audience Awareness:** is being aware of where your audience is and making sure your drama is presented towards them so they can appreciate it. Often, we encourage actors to face the audience, although sometimes it can be effective to decide to have your back to the audience for a valid reason.

**Tableaux:** means "living picture" A tableau is a representation of a dramatic scene by a person or group, who perform silently without moving.

# Off the Rails

## APPROACHES TO CREATING THEATRE

When creating a piece of theatre there are many different approaches you can consider; practitioner influences, style, Drama conventions and different stimuli.

We are creating work using three approaches:

1. **Scripted** – we are performing the play 'Off the Rails', using the dialogue written to both deliver to the audience and give us information about the character.
2. **Rap** – in the script 'Off the Rails' there is a rap, which means the dialogue is delivered rhythmically to a beat.
3. **Drama Conventions** – you will use conventions to develop your understanding of your role and for your performance.

*\*Stimuli - a starting point for a piece of work.*

*\*Dialogue – the speech that is written/created for actors to say.*

## CHARACTERISATION

Characterisation means the act of changing yourself to portray a character in role, as all people are different

Things to consider for 'Off the Rails':

Facial expressions / Body language / Gesture / Vocal expression / Movement / Spatial relationships



## WIDER RESEARCH

