



A1 Hot seating: interview an actor

This classroom-based module encourages students and teachers to discuss the role of an actor within a production.

Preview Project

Arts teacher's lesson plan

Suitable for teaching at most secondary school years or levels

Hot seating – Interview an actor

How to use this module

Photocopy required numbers of the module. Distribute to students, invite them to choose their characters and then either individually or in groups act out the roleplay and work through the discussion and activities. Use as a class lesson or within your teaching plan.

Lesson duration

One class lesson depending on objectives.

Achievement objectives

- Students analyse the role, tasks, skills and other functions that are part of the actor's lifestyle.
- Students can research other theatre occupations and are interviewed in a similar interview type situation

Assessment

- Students have an understanding of the acting role within a production.

Characters

An interviewer interviews an actor with help from students. The characters are Interviewer, Actor and Students One to Thirteen.

Note

ActUp modules are fictional works. Any similarity or reference to actual events or places or products or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental and not intended

SETTING: A TALKBACK SHOW WITH THE CLASSROOM BEING THE STUDIO. CHARACTERS ARE THE INTERVIEWER, ACTOR AND STUDENTS ONE-THIRTEEN WHO ASK QUESTIONS.

APPLAUSE AS INTERVIEWER ENTERS WAVING

INTERVIEWER Ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to another show of 'Drama Today'. How are you all?

AUDIENCE CLAPS LOUDER

How many of us here are interested in acting?

MOST OF THE AUDIENCE PUTS UP HAND

Well then you're in for a treat. Can we have a big hand for our special guest actor.

AUDIENCE APPLAUDS. INTERVIEWER SITS DOWN AS ACTOR ENTERS AND SITS.

INTERVIEWER Welcome to the show. How are you feeling?

ACTOR Fired up and loving it here already.

INTERVIEWER I know that people in the audience are keen to ask questions so shall we start?

ACTOR Let's do it.

INTERVIEWER Any questions please?

ONE (HANDS UP) I have a question. What does an actor do?

ACTOR Actors portray characters who appear in productions or programmes on stages, in films, on television or radio. We bring a character to life. Some roles are fictional so we have a good chance to work with the director and help mould that character. Other roles are based on well-known people so we have to study that person and understand them so that we can portray them accurately. Researching our character is really important. We have to memorise our character's lines and cues, their physical movements, any quirks they might have, and bring the character to life for the other actors, director, crew and the audience.

Student worksheet

Discussion and activities

Students perform the play then work through some or all of the following discussion and activities, either individually or in groups.

Discussion

1 What does an actor do?

2. Identify three tasks that an actor does?

3. Identify three skills that an actor needs?

4. Name three talents that an actor might need?

5. Name three different locations in which an actor could work?
