

Hello my wonderful drama students !!! This week, we're going to be practicing the voice skills we learned over the last two years, by creating voices for animated characters. This activity came from the Ministry's French Pedagogical kit, and I translated then tweaked it. I hope you like it ;)

Ms. Morrison

Voice Dubbing

Instructions for students

- Analyze and interpret the voices of the characters in a two to three minute animated film sequence.
- After a few vocal warmup activities, you will create new dialogue for your characters for these same sequences.

Required material

An animated film that you already have at home or a film that you like, which airs on television.

Source : Activité proposée en collaboration avec la Commission scolaire de la Seigneurie-des-Mille-Îles.

Information for parents

About the activity :

Your child will practice :

- Interpreting the voices of the characters in a two to three minute film sequence.
- Creating new dialogue for these characters.

You could :

- Play one of the characters with your child.
- Ask your child to present his/her dubbing to you.
- Film his/her dubbing sequences so that he/she can then share them with his/her friends.

Exploration, vocal warm-up:

The voice is a precious instrument for an actor, because it allows him/her to create and interpret many characters. How can you transform your voice to play a character ? Think back to our Basic Skills Bootcamp unit. You can use pitch, intensity, cadence, accent, projection, articulation etc. Here are some vocal warmups to get you started, Enjoy !

First, some tongue-twisters!

- In the next two sentences, focus on the movement of your lips, without trying to open your jaw too wide, or even wiggle your tongue too much or pucker your face ... It's possible!
- Repeat the following sentences 5 times, as fast as you can:

1- Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear. Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair. Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn't fuzzy, was he?

2- A big black bear sat on a big black rug

Now for a familiar breathing and vocal chord warmup!

- Inhale for 4 seconds, exhale for 6. On the exhale, make the sound **ahhhh**
- Repeat this exercise always inhaling for 4 and increase the length of your exhale with every new sound. Do this with sounds : **ou, oh, eh, ee**

Steps for interpreting and creating :

Step 1 : watch a short excerpt (2-3 minutes long) of your chosen animated film or TV show, where there are at least two characters talking.

Step 2 : While watching, you are paying attention to the following :

- The differences between the voices of each character
- The dialogue and its message

Step 3 : If you are doing this activity alone, try to imitate the voices of each character, one after the other, if you are doing this with a family member, take turns imitating each voice.

- Next, play the video while muting the sound and try to perform the dialogue

Step 4 : Now try to **give the characters new voices** by playing around with your resonators and articulators (remember; these are the parts of the body which create sound and speech : lungs, vocal chords, nasal cavities, tongue, lips, teeth, soft and hard palettes etc.)

Step 5 : Now try playing around with your character's tone.

For example : a shy or timid tone, sad, seductive, authoritarian etc.

Step 6 : Now, it's time to create a new scene by writing new dialogue for the characters. Write the dialogue, practice it in the new voice you've created and with the video playing on mute.

- You can film yourself doing this on or off-screen and share with your friends. Or you can present your scene to your family.

You can do this activity over as many times as you like, with as many different texts and voices as you can come up with; it's all about having fun!

If you feel comfortable, you can upload your work to Instagram or Facebook using the hashtag #IBartsHSB