

## Improvisation Games for Speaking English

### 1 FAMILY IN A CAR

Materials: four chairs and some space.

- i) Arrange four chairs like a car.
- ii) Brainstorm typical situations in a car with the parents sat in the front and the kids in the back.
- iii) Give teams or ensembles 4 mins to prepare their scene.
- iv) Everyone sits down to watch each ensemble act out a typical scene in the car. Typical scenes include a kid repeating "How far is it now?" or parents arguing.

### 2 FLOWER POWER

Materials: Youtube, sound and space.

- i) The groups need to lie on the floor with their heads in the middle in a flower formation.
- ii) Everyone needs a pencil and notebook to write down their ideas while lying down.
- iii) Play some atmospheric sounds from Youtube eg Gregorian chants, jungle or city sounds etc.
- iv) The players may quietly discuss what they are imagining as they are listening.
- v) The players note down their best ideas.
- vi) After 5 mins or so, teams stand up and prepare a scene based on their ideas.
- vii) Teams or ensembles take turns presenting their scenes.

### 3 YOUTUBE ATMOSPHERES

#### MONKS

- i) Play Gregorian chants from Youtube.
- ii) Two students walk around the class being monks.
- iii) When the music stops, they discuss their thoughts on the after-life.

#### BALOO, BAGHEERA AND KAA

- i) Play Indian music or use jungle sounds from Youtube.
- ii) One student is Kaa and sits on a table.
- iii) Two other students are Baloo and Bagheera. They are looking for Moghli. They walk around the class, shouting, "Moghli, where are you?" They go around the class twice.
- iv) Eventually they come to Kaa. Turn down or off the music. Baloo and Bagheera explain to Kaa that they are looking for Moghli and that the monkeys have taken him. They must persuade Kaa to help them.

#### POCAHONTAS AND JOHN SMITH

- i) Play American Indian music and forest sounds from Youtube.
- ii) Pocahontas takes John Smith around the class which is the forest, showing him things.
- iii) Eventually they sit down and Pocahontas asks John Smith about life in England.

#### MAID MARION AND ROBIN HOOD

- i) Play forest sounds from Youtube.
- ii) Maid Marion and Robin walk through the forest.
- iii) They sit on a table. Robin is going to fight the evil Sheriff of Nottingham and Marion tries to persuade him not to go.

### 4 EMOTION

Two actors sit in front of each other. One has to make the other one change their emotional state. The teacher provides the first statements or questions designed to affect the other player. The players then go from there. Here are some examples.

Say to her/him:

- i) Everyone says you are mean to your little brother/sister.
- ii) You owe me 20 Euros, remember?
- iii) George said you cheated in the maths exam.
- iv) I think you are really attractive.
- v) Can I take you out to dinner tonight?
- vi) Have you got a partner?
- iv) I think you are really attractive.
- v) Can I take you out to dinner tonight?
- vi) Have you got a partner?

- vii) Everyone says you're an extremist/racist/sexist.
- viii) Somebody told me you are really left/right wing.
- ix) Someone told me you are really horrible to your parents.
- x) I love your hair!
- xi) You're so cool. Can I hang out with you all the time?
- xii) Why are you always shouting?
- xiii) You're so immature!

#### 5 SPEED DATING

Place two chairs facing each other. Repeat twice so there are 6 chairs in total. A player sits in each chair.

- i) Focus on the first couple on the left. They have 3 mins to chat each other up.
- ii) The next pair has three minutes and then the last pair.
- iii) Now people change places and repeat the process.
- iv) After that, each person tells the audience what they thought of their two dates.
- v) The actors need to adopt personas which are not their own to avoid hurt feelings.

#### 6 BUS STOP CONVERSATION.

- i) Two students come to the front.
- ii) Tell them they are sitting at the bus stop and waiting for a bus.
- iii) Give them a TOPIC of conversation like THE WEATHER, FOOTBALL etc.
- iv) After a bit, tell them, you are now TWO OLD LADIES OR MEN TALKING ABOUT THE WEATHER.
- v) Then, you are two MUSCLEMEN talking about the weather.
- vi) Keep changing the circumstances such as ANGRY OLD MEN etc.