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| **Department: Theater**  | **Course Title: Improvisation** |
| **Grade(s): 9-12** | **Prerequisites: None** |

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| **Concept/Focus** | **Skills** | **Methods of Assessment** | **Framework Strand(s), and Standard(s)** |
| **1.*** **The history of improvisational theatre**
* **Build group trust and an atmosphere of support is required**
* **The only option is to say YES to all class workshops**
* **Wear comfortable clothes/shoes (bare feet are O.K.)**
* **Improvisation is about reacting, and creating in the moment without negative judgments.**
* **Improvisation is a communication skill that uses multiple intelligences.**
 | * **Giving and taking**
* **The agreement**
* **Rules of improvisation (i.e. keep the ball moving)**
* **The five senses**
* **Information**
* **Emotion**
* **Theater serves as a necessary function**
* **We are all storytellers**
* **Theatre is a thought driven**
* **Theater is a hands-on, active and experimental process**
* **Theater involves creating a belief system**
* **Critique of classmates’ performance**
* **Understanding and creating stage pictures**
* **Set as the environment of the story**
 | * **Fables**
* **Origins of story**
* **Ritual as theater**
* **Creation myth**
* **Actor’s warm-up**
* **Understanding “Thought”, “Character committed to action” and “relationship”**
* **Staccato-Legatto**

 | **5. a, b, c, f****8. a, b, c, d, e, f,** **2. a, b, c****2. d, e** |
| **2. Where do characters come from? How do you find a character?** | * **Character: character centers, face centers**
* **Building story through action**
* **Qualities of movement: character walks**
* **Writing prompts from literature and outside work**
 | * **Finding characters in literature**
* **Cartoon characters**
* **Characters in dilemma**
 | **1. a, b**  |
| **3. How can the act of pantomime provide realism in theater?** | * **How body posture changes while performing various tasks**
* **Pantomime various objects**
* **Provide object consistency**
* **Build a scene with mime**
 | * **Archetypal actions**
* **Mirror exercise**
* **Marked development of pantomime skills developed during mirroring when used in improvised scenes**
 |  **4. a, b, c** |
| **4.** * **Writing a scenario**
* **Through theater exercises, students will develop to sharpen their perceptions and their abilities to make choices.**
 | * **The importance of watching a partner**
* **Using improvisation as a means to get to story**
 | * **Scenarios**
* **Building scenarios from given circumstances**
* **Scene writing with direct conflict between two characters**
 | **3. c, d**  |
| **5. Understanding physical space through movement and dance** | * **6 Areas in Space**
* **Active verbs**
* **Contact Improvisation**
* **Understanding the qualities of movement**
* **Contraction/expansion Chekhov’s Ten Archetypal Gestures**
* **Laban’s Eight basic Effort Actions**
 | * **Movement pieces/rituals**
* **Seasons exercises**
* **Story-telling through dance**
 | **7. f** |
| **6.** * **Improvisational styles**
* **Performance techniques**
 | * **Objectives and obstacles**
* **Tactic and adjustments**
* **How to continue an improvised scene**
 | * **Improvisation games (presents, yes let’s)**
* **Competitions**
 | **7. a, b, c** |
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