

# Sample Performance Assessment

**Content Area:** Drama and Theatre Arts

**Grade Level:** Eight (8)

**Instructional Unit Sample:** Using Improvisation to Devise a Scripted Scene

**Colorado Academic Standard(s):** DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.1; DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.2; DTA09-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1; DTA09-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2; DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.1; DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2, DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3

**Concepts and skills students' master:** Creation, Performance, and Critical Response

## Unit Description

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In this unit, [Using Improvisation to Devise a Scripted Scene](#), students will explore their own cultural and life experiences through improvisational techniques and exercises to collaboratively develop a scripted work. Across the unit students will apply a variety of improvisational techniques to explore and analyze the cultural influence and personal experiences that influence the creation of a dramatic performance. The unit will culminate in a final scene performance for an audience following a planning/development, rehearsal and revision process that includes reflection on a student's personal creative process in the improvisation to script development

## Performance Assessment Description

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Stimulus Material Prompt for Students: Your new agent has just secured you an audition for a pilot T.V. show reviving the old show "This is Your Life!" The new spin for the show will be to re-visit a person's life events through improvisation and scripted works (similar in ways to the old show, "Whose Line is it Anyway?"). As part of the audition, you have been asked to reenact a scene depicting a significant cultural event and/or important life experience through improvisation. You will then use that same cultural event or life experience and work collaboratively with fellow prospective cast members to develop a scripted work based on the improvisation. Following a rehearsal and revision process, you will participate in a culminating performance for a "test" audience.

Notes to Instructors: The included weights in the rubric are recommendations only. Please feel free to modify to meet students' needs and goals.



## Acting Rubric for Evaluation of Improvisation and Performance

	Above Mastery	Mastery of Grade Level Standards	Approaching Mastery	Novice	
<u>Scoring Criteria</u>	4	3	2	1	Weight
<b>Vocal Technique</b>	Utilizes adept vocal techniques to find the voice of the character (intonation and connotation, subtext revealed, and vocal emotion).	Clearly projected, articulate voice, with vocal variety (pitch, rate, tone, tempo, volume, inflection), used throughout the scene.	Some difficulties in dialogue articulation and projection, resulting in difficulty of understanding. Lack of vocal variety techniques.	No projection and/or articulation. No vocal variety to express the character.	X1
<b>Movement and Stage Presence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Blocking, gestures, facial expressions create a new insight into the given circumstances.</li> <li>➤ Actor maintains a grounded presence, utilizes levels and positioning to create a believable character.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Blocking, gestures, facial expressions, posture are motivated by the given circumstances.</li> <li>➤ Actor represents a character that is grounded, while demonstrating proper stage positioning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Non-intuitive blocking and gesturing, and a disconnect from the given circumstances.</li> <li>➤ Actor demonstrates a character that is not grounded (posture &amp; presence that is indicative of your character) within the scene.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No variety in movement in the scene. Frequent break down of traditional blocking rules, i.e. upstaging, not being open</li> <li>➤ Character represents the student and not the textual identity.</li> </ul>	X1
<b>Characterization</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Brings individual uniqueness to develop character point of view.</li> <li>➤ Active tactics connected to character.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Sustained believability through-out performance based on character point of view.</li> <li>➤ Character motivations are unique within the given circumstances</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Believable moments occur within piece.</li> <li>➤ Character motivations are typical within the given circumstances</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Characterization is not believable or present.</li> <li>➤ Character motivations are lacking within the given circumstances</li> </ul>	X2
<b>Relationship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Clearly defined relationships with others in the scene. Relationship is ever changing and reactionary within the scene.</li> <li>➤ Realistic emotional levels portrayed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Relationship demonstrated through conflict</li> <li>➤ Portrayed through interactions: emotional, factual, physical, trust, listening, and silence.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Actors appear to be engaged in a monologue and not reacting to the relationship within the scene</li> <li>➤ Some interactions present, but the interaction appears to be forced.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Actors are not establishing any relationship outside of their characters sphere and strive to block others in pursuit of their own means.</li> <li>➤ Actor actively chooses to ignore the interactions needed to be within the moment.</li> </ul>	X2
<b>Performance Fundamentals</b>	Student engages others in a professional collaborative process. Student mentors others in a professional and supportive manner.	Memorized selection, professionalism, slate, etiquette is evident.	Hesitation within dialogue, incorrect slate, and professionalism lacking.	Not memorized, no slate and poor theatre etiquette.	X1



<b>Dramatic Structure</b>	Student develops a dramatic structure that incorporates all elements of dramatic situation to create a paradoxical point of view.	Student successfully develops a dramatic situation using elements such as who, what, where, when, conflict, and point of view.	Student attempts to develop a dramatic situation but is unsuccessful with orchestration of all elements: who, what where, when, conflict, and point of view.	No attempt to establish dramatic situation or scene is noticeably lacking with more than one element: who, what where, when, conflict, and point of view.	X3
<b>Peer Critique</b>	Provides constructive feedback relevant to this rubric, class goals, and objectives.	Completed rubric and justification of their scores.	Feedback is short and not concise, lacking support and justifications.	No feedback provided.	X1
				<b>TOTAL</b>	



## Performance Assessment Development Template

Who is developing this performance assessment?	
<b>Name:</b> Colorado Content Collaborative in Drama and Theatre Arts	<b>Position/Affiliation:</b> Colorado Content Collaborative in Drama and Theatre Arts
I. CONTENT STANDARDS	
<b>Content Area: Drama and Theatre Arts</b>	
<b>Colorado Academic Standards</b> Specify the Colorado Academic Standard(s) that will be evaluated by the performance tasks. <a href="#">Colorado Academic Standards Online</a> (hold CTRL and click to visit the website)	DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.1 DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.2 DTA09-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1 DTA09-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2 DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.1 DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2 DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3
<b>Grade Level(s)</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>
<b>Indicate the intended Depth of Knowledge (DOK) for this performance assessment.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> DOK 1 <input type="checkbox"/> DOK 2 <input type="checkbox"/> DOK 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DOK 4
<b>What are some real-world situations that relate to the content standards above? Some examples are included in the Colorado standards under "Relevance and Application."</b>	Students will be writing and performing original scripts much as professional artists do.
<b>Summary.</b> Provide a brief summary describing the task in the boxes below.	
<b>Performance Task Name</b>	<b>Brief Description of the Task</b>
<b>Using Improvisation to Devise a Scripted Scene</b>	In this unit students will explore their own cultural and life experiences through improvisational techniques and exercises to collaboratively develop a scripted work. Across the unit students will apply a variety of improvisational techniques to explore and analyze the cultural influence and personal experiences that influence the creation of a dramatic performance. The unit will culminate in a final scene performance for an audience following a planning/development, rehearsal and revision process that includes reflection on a student's personal creative process in the improvisation to script development



<b>II. Claims, Skills, Knowledge &amp; Evidence</b>	
<b>Claims.</b> <i>What claim(s) do you wish to make about the student? In other words, what inferences do you wish to make about what a student knows or can do? Define any key concepts in these claims.</i>	<b>Successful completion of this task would indicate...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Observation of cultural events, social circumstances, and personal life experiences can often result in collaborative art-making</li> </ul>
<b>Skills.</b> <i>Refer to the standard(s), grade level, and DOK levels you listed in Section I. Given this information, what skills should be assessed? All skills should align with the above claims.</i>	<b>Student should be able to...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Discover a well-defined character through improvisation. (DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.1,2) and (DTA09-GR.8-S2-GLE.1,2) and (DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3)</li> <li>➤ Create improvised and/or scripted performances that show conflict and character development at an introductory level. (DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.1) and (DTA09-GR.8-S2-GLE.2,3)</li> <li>➤ Justify choices in an improvisational setting and/or scripted performance. (DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.1) and (DTA09-GR.8-S2-GLE.1,2) and (DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2)</li> <li>➤ Describe and/or demonstrate all of the essential dramatic elements through performance of final scene. (DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.2) and (DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3)</li> </ul>
<b>Knowledge.</b> <i>Refer to the standard(s), grade level, and DOK level you listed in Section I. Given this information, what knowledge/concepts should be assessed? All knowledge should align with the above claims.</i>	<b>Student should know/understand...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ How requires self-direction, confidence and concentration are used to create and maintain a character (DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.1) and (DTA09-GR.8-S2-GLE.2)</li> <li>➤ The techniques and requirements for making a character believable. (DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.1) and (DTA09-GR.8-S2-GLE.2)</li> <li>➤ Components of a well-structured scene (conflict, climax, rising action, falling action) (DTA09-GR.8-S.1-GLE.1,2) and (DTA09-GR.8-S2-GLE.1) and (DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2)</li> <li>➤ The techniques for giving and/or receiving constructive feedback. (DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2)</li> <li>➤ How social issues, personal experiences and cultural contexts aid in creating improvisational work (DTA09-GR.8-S.3-GLE.1)</li> </ul>
<b>Evidence.</b> <i>What can the student do/produce to show evidence of the above knowledge and skills?</i>	<b>Student will show evidence of skills and knowledge by...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Students will create an original script and perform for an audience</li> </ul>



<b>III.A. PERFORMANCE TASKS: Instructions to the Student</b>
<p><b><i>Think about the performance assessment process from a student’s perspective. What instructions does the student need? Make sure the instructions are <u>fair and unbiased</u>. Instructions should be detailed, clear, and written at the appropriate grade level.</i></b></p>
<p><b><i>Give the student an overview of the performance assessment (i.e., purpose of the assessment, tasks the student will need to complete, etc.).</i></b></p> <p>Individually or in collaboration create a script and perform for an audience within the given circumstances of the prompt.</p>
<p><b><i>Stimulus Material. Describe what stimulus material the student will receive. For example, the stimulus might be a story or scenario that the student reads, analyzes, and to which the student provides a response.</i></b></p> <p>Your new agent has just secured you an audition for a pilot T.V. show reviving the old show “This is Your Life!” The new spin for the show will be to re-visit a person’s life events through improvisation and scripted works (similar in ways to the old show, “Whose Line is it Anyway?”). As part of the audition, you have been asked to reenact a scene depicting a significant cultural event and/or important life experience through improvisation. You will then use that same cultural event or life experience and work collaboratively with fellow prospective cast members to develop a scripted work based on the improvisation. Following a rehearsal and revision process, you will participate in a culminating performance for a “test” audience.</p>
<p><b><i>Explain to the student what documents/materials they have for the performance assessment. Explain what the student should <u>do</u> with those documents/materials.</i></b></p> <p>Script, Self-Reflections, Rubrics, Program, Poster, Invitations, Drawings. Please turn in all items to your teacher after your performance</p>
<p><b><i>Describe in detail any safety equipment that is required. Is safety equipment provided onsite, or are students expected to bring their own safety equipment?</i></b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<p><b><i>Explain what students need to do when they complete each task (e.g., submit work to the educator, move on to the next task, etc.).</i></b></p> <p>After each task students should reflect in their journals</p>
<p><b><i>Provide any other relevant information for the students’ instructions.</i></b></p> <p>N/A</p>



**III.B. PERFORMANCE TASKS:  
Instructions to the Educator**

***Think about the performance assessment process from an educator’s perspective. What instructions do educators need? Instructions to the educator should be clear and concise.***

**Before the Performance Assessment is Administered**

***How should the educator prepare the site where the performance assessment will be administered? Be as specific as possible.***

Traditional performance space with audience seating should be provided.

***What materials should be provided to students? Be as specific as possible.***

Assessment rubrics, access to properties and costumes as needed.

***What materials should the student bring to the performance assessment session? Be as specific as possible.***

Assessment rubric and performance materials including but not limited to costumes, props, and properties.

***What materials should not be available to the student during the performance assessment session (e.g., cell phones, calculators, etc.)?***

Cell phones or any distractions that pull focus from the performance.

***Should the educator keep track of time? If so, specify how much time the student will have to complete the performance assessment. Explain how the educator should keep track of and record time.***

Time limitations are up to teacher discretion.

***Will the educator need to video/audio record the students during the performance assessment session? If so, provide detailed instructions on how to set up the recording equipment.***

Video recordings will be provided for student self-reflection. Recording material will be set out of the way to avoid distractions for the performers.



### During the Performance Assessment Session

***How should the educator respond to students' questions?***

Educator should respond in a professional manner applicable to the given circumstances.

***What should the educator do while the student is completing the tasks (e.g., should the educator make notes about the student's process, mark scores on rubrics, etc.)?***

Mark scores on rubrics, observe student interaction and collaboration. Redirect as necessary.

### Upon Completion of the Performance Assessment

***What does the educator need to collect from the student?***

Rubric for assessment.

***What information should the educator give the student at the end of the performance assessment session?***

Completed rubric and opportunities for self-reflection for further goal setting. Recording of performance if available.

***Who is responsible for cleaning/resetting the workstation (if necessary)—the student or the educator? How should the workstation be cleaned?***

Resetting the work area is a collaborative effort between educator and students. Educator should serve as the facilitator in conjunction with the prompter.

**Other relevant information for the educator's instructions:**

N/A



**III.C. PERFORMANCE TASKS:  
Other Considerations**

**How will students' responses be recorded? Describe how evidence will be collected about each student's performance (e.g., student submits a work product, educator records information about the student's process, etc.)**

On the rubric and in their journals

**What needs to be built for this performance assessment? Refer to the materials list above. Think about what materials must be created for this performance assessment. Some examples include: worksheets, instruction sheets for the educator, videos, websites, etc.**

Self-reflection prompts based on formative assessment

**III.D. PERFORMANCE TASKS:  
Accommodations**

**What are the requirements for this set of tasks? What accommodations might be needed? List all accommodations that might apply (e.g., accommodations for language, timing, setting, etc.).**

Accommodations are inherent in the process of writing original material.

**IV. EDUCATOR INFORMATION**

**What are the requirements to be an educator for this performance assessment? What are the knowledge and skills and educator must possess in order to successfully administer and score this performance assessment. Please provide your recommendations below.**

A qualified drama and theatre arts educator with deep knowledge of the Colorado Academic Standards in Drama & Theatre Arts.



### **Performance Assessment Development Process**

The work of the Colorado Content Collaboratives is intended to support effective instructional practice by providing high quality examples of assessment and how assessment information is used to promote student learning.

The new Colorado Academic Standards require students to apply content knowledge using extended conceptual thinking and 21st century skills. Performance assessments have the highest capacity to not only measure student mastery of the standards but also provide the most instructionally relevant information to educators. Further, performance assessments can integrate multiple standards within and across content areas, providing educators a comprehensive perspective of student knowledge and giving students the opportunity to demonstrate the degree to which they understand and transfer their knowledge.

*Performance Assessment - An assessment based on observation and judgment. It has two parts: the task and the criteria for judging quality. Students complete a task (give a demonstration or create a product) and it is evaluated by judging the level of quality using a rubric. Examples of demonstrations include playing a musical instrument, carrying out the steps in a scientific experiment, speaking a foreign language, reading aloud with fluency, repairing an engine, or working productively in a group. Examples of products can include writing an essay, producing a work of art, writing a lab report, etc. (Pearson Training Institute, 2011)*

The Content Collaboratives worked closely with the [Center for Educational Testing and Evaluation from the University of Kansas](#) to establish protocols for the development of performance assessments and to use those protocols to develop performance assessments that include scoring rubrics. The Performance Assessment Development Process includes a collection of resources to aid schools and districts that choose to engage in locally developing performance assessments. These resources can be accessed in the CDE Assessment Resource Bank at <http://www.coloradopl.org/node/12765>.

**The Performance Assessment Development Process** is best utilized when intending to create an assessment for culminating assessment purposes such as a unit, end of course, end of semester, or end of year summative assessment. Additionally, a district, BOCES, or school may wish to create a common performance assessment that can be used across multiple classrooms. Engaging in the Performance Assessment Development Process serves as evidence that an educator is participating in valuable assessment work that aligns to the Colorado Academic Standards, district curriculum, and district goals.

The performance assessments developed by the Content Collaboratives serve as high-quality examples of performance assessments that can be used for a variety of purposes. Scores from these performance assessments are used at the discretion of the district or school.

