

DRAMA CONVENTIONS

Flashback: Flashback can be used during an improvisation to give the audience more information about the characters in the past. For example, if the character has committed a crime this can be flashbaced to show how this was done.

Flashforward: Flashforward can be used during an improvisation to give the audience more information about the characters in the future, for example, the consequences of their actions.

Freeze Frame: Freeze Frame can be used at the beginning or end of an improvisation to indicate to the audience the action is just about to start or finish. A freeze frame can also be used to stop the drama at a specific moment to enable the audience to understand the action. It might be used in conjunction with a narrator who might explain part of the story while the action is frozen. *(See also Still Image and Thought Tracking)*

Mime: Mime can be used during part of an improvisation to replace a non-existent prop or can be used to tell a story using stylized movement.

Monologue: Monologue can be used in conjunction with a freeze frame during a performance. One character speaks to the audience about their thoughts and feelings while the rest of the characters are frozen. This can be repeated for the other characters in the drama. It is a tool to enhance the audience's understanding of the storyline and characters. A monologue can also be a character alone on the stage describing their thoughts and feelings.

Narration: Narration can be used when a child or a teacher tells the story of a drama, either as someone looking on who is not involved in the drama or as a character within the drama.

Slow Motion: Slow Motion can be used in an improvisation to highlight an important moment in the drama. This slows the action down to help the audience understand the action and to create tension.

Still Image: Still Image is created from a stimulus or an idea to represent or express an emotion or theme. For example, a still image representing the seasons, war, or an emotion such as fear, hate and love. Thought tracking can then be used from this still image. *(See also Freeze Frame and Thought Tracking)*