Year 8 – Role on The Wall – Drama Activity

Role On The Wall is a drama method that helps you to explore a character, their motivations, thoughts, feelings and facts about their life. The technique helps to develop knowledge about any character in a story, book, film or play and to aid our understanding of how and why they behave in the way that they do. This, in turn, helps us to appreciate how characters relate to each other, what their actions are motivated by, and how a piece of drama centres on creating believable and three-dimensional characters.

The Role On The Wall outline is usually used by writing down the feelings and thoughts of a character inside the body outline and any facts about the character – age, family, friends, enemies – around the outside of the body outline. But there are other ways to use Role On The Wall and these have been included in this home learning pack.

Choose one of the characters you are familiar with from the list below and complete a role on the wall for your character. Alternatively you can choose your own character - write down their thoughts and feelings inside the body and any facts about your character on the outside.

* Use the outline to explore the character of Kung Fu Panda. Write down his thoughts and feelings on the inside of the body shape and facts that you know about his life around the outside. Do this three times – for the character at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end of the film. Use a different coloured pen each time. Makes separate notes on how the character develops and changes throughout the film.
* For the character of Harry Potter from any of the books or films, use the outline to write down his positive character traits inside the body outline and his negative character traits around the outside.
* Repeat this process with the character of Voldemort from the Harry Potter books or films.
* Use the outline to explore the character of Gangsta Granny. On the inside of the body outline write things that Gangsta Granny might say or think. Around the outside of the body outline write things that gangsta Granny might do – her actions. Compare the two. Make separate notes on what this tells you about the character of Gangsta Granny and how secretive she is.
* For the character of Elsa in Frozen, use the outline to write her thoughts and feelings on the inside of the body shape and facts that you know about her life around the outside. Do this twice – for Elsa at the beginning of the film and again at the end of the film – using a different coloured pen each time. Make separate notes on how the character of Elsa changes and how her emotions develop during the story.
* Repeat this process with the character of Elsa in Frozen II.

Outline of a person similar to a gingerbread person