

# USING DRAMA TO TEACH ENGLISH

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With the implementation of the Communicative Approach, typical classroom activities also include and highlight '...the need for communication, interaction, and negotiation of meaning through the use of activities such as problem-solving, information sharing, and role-play'. Consequently, students need to learn the language as well as learn how to use it appropriately within the social contexts they encounter. As English language students, they need to develop both their linguistic competency and also their sociolinguistic competency (Sandra Lee McKay). This can best be developed through drama which allows students a means of exploring the reality they live in while incorporating the element of fun and enjoyment of 'doing' (Charlyn Wessels) since students would be deeply involved in their role-play characters. Thus, this course is aimed at providing ESL teachers with the techniques associated with drama that could also be used within the language teaching-learning environment.

## *Objectives*

At the end of the course, participants would have:

- A more insightful understanding of the use of drama in a language-learning context
- Explored drama techniques to facilitate the development of

students' verbal communication skills

- Experienced drama games to facilitate language learning

## *Content*

The content of the course will be as follows:

- Drama and Education
- Drama and Spoken communication Skills
- Drama and literature
- Drama games

## *Duration*

3 days (18 contact hours)

## *Modes of Delivery*

The course will be conducted through a series of interactive lectures, demonstrations, modeling, workshops, simulation activities and group discussions and presentations. Participants will be required to build a file of classroom materials and activities.

## *Participants*

The course is meant for TESL-trained teachers and non-optionist teachers teaching English at the Lower Secondary school level.