



ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP THE TEXT IN PERFORMANCE

- Find the 'Week by Week' section of the web-site and select 'Week 2'. Here you will see some photographs of the actors in rehearsal. You will see that they are playing games in these photographs. Why do you think the director of the play might ask the actors to play games in this way? Think about the way that footballers behave when they celebrate a goal or when they are involved in a tackle. How do you think this might help actors in the fight scenes? Think about the way all that all the young men behave towards each other in those scenes in the play.
- In the 'Week by Week' section of the web-site select 'Week 2'. Read the blog for Tuesday 12th February. You will see that, as they are rehearsing, the actors discuss each scene and what each actor 'wants' at that time. It helps actors to think of the motivation of their characters and how they change as the play progresses. Read the section of the play which the blog refers to Act 3 Scene 1 lines 133 – 191. Make your own list of what each character 'wants' in that scene.
- Listen to the blog posted by the actor playing the Prince. The actor sums up the Prince in three words by saying he is 'Strong, conflicted, troubled' as he tries to keep the difficult situation in Verona under control. How do you think the actor could show each of these aspects (strong, conflicted and troubled) in performing the part?
- In Week 4 of the 'Week by Week' section of the web-site, look at the brief provided to the designer for stage set for the play. You will see that the stage set needs to have a balcony, somewhere for Friar Lawrence's cell and for Juliet's bedroom as well as space for the street scenes and the ball. Using the brief and the design template on the web-site create your own design for the set for the play. Remember to include all the features that are required in the play. You can have a look at a photograph of the actual set and some other designs that young people have created.
- Listen to the second blog posted by the actor playing Romeo. Notice how he describes the way that their costumes for this modern dress performance have been designed to show that the young people are 'cool' through the jeans and trainers that they wear. What other ways can you think of such as clothes and hairstyles of the young characters in the play could show that they are cool. Try designing your own costumes for some of the younger characters taking ideas from modern fashions.