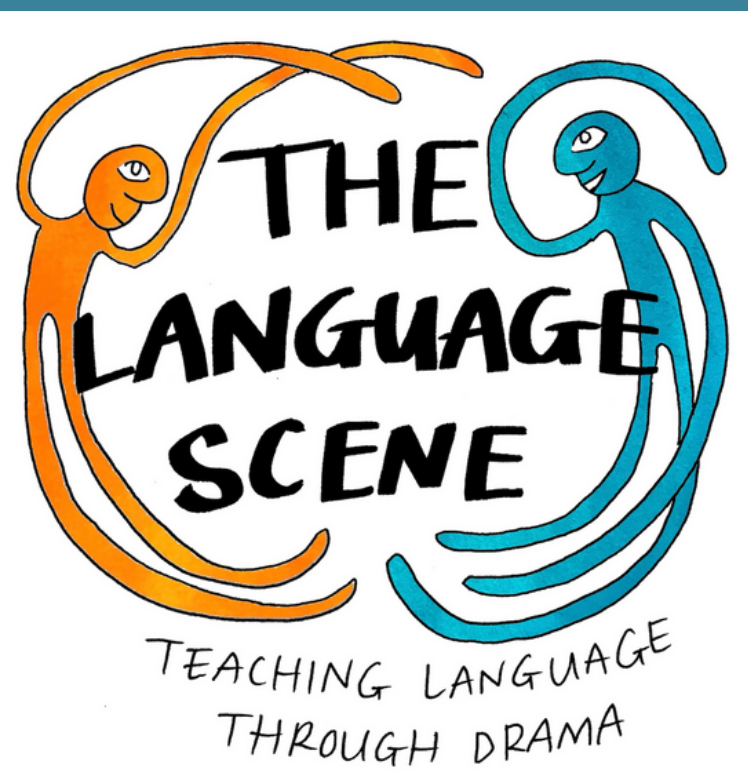
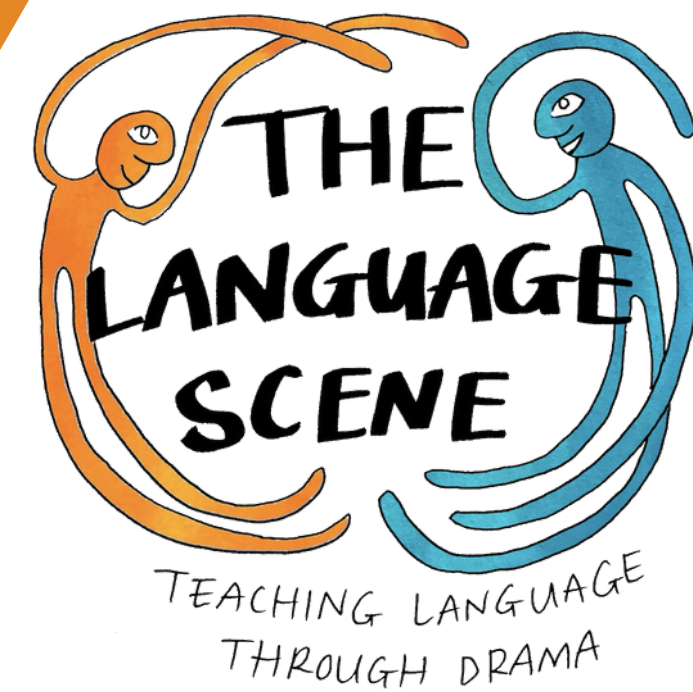


Teaching language through drama (Part 2)

Presenter: Jodie Whitehurst
Saturday, 24 February, 2024



Grammar exploration through drama



existing knowledge

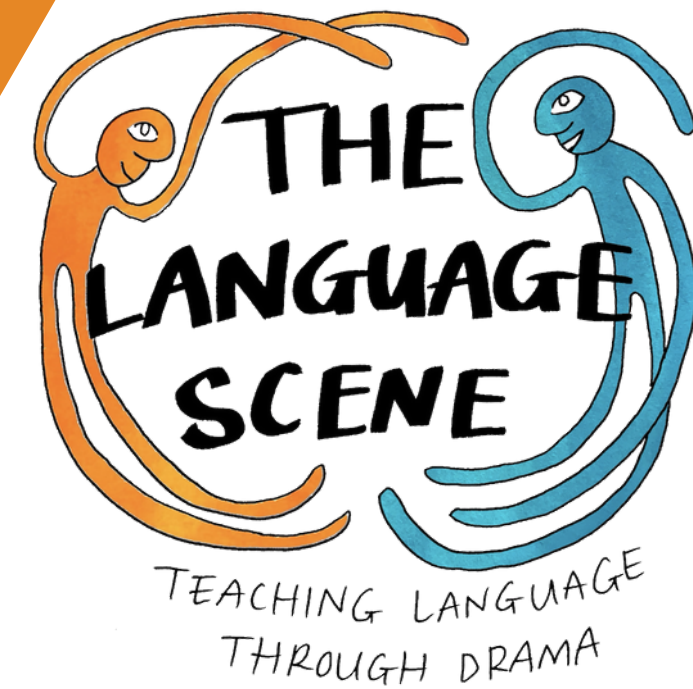
the body

contexts

playfulness

grammar comes to life

Introduction game



1. I'm _____, and I enjoy (mime the activity, e.g. fishing)

2. This is (name) and he/she enjoys fishing

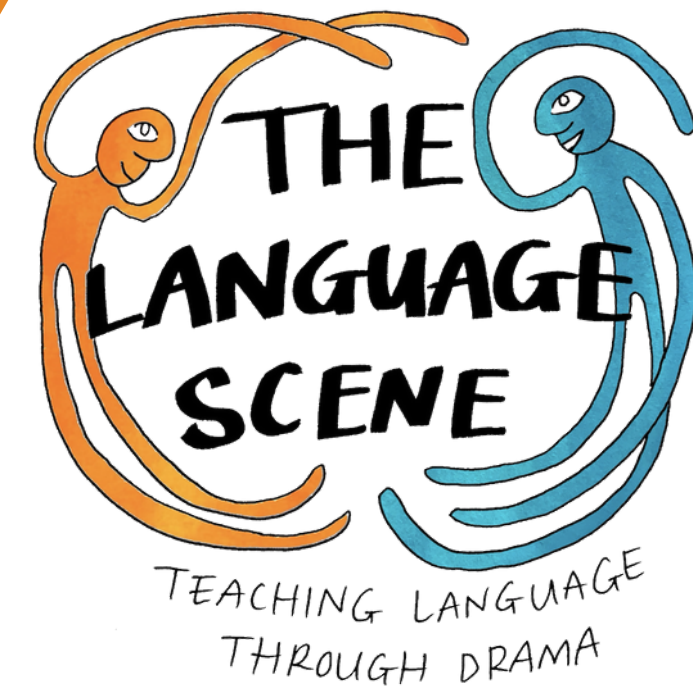
or

This is (name) and they enjoy fishing

then

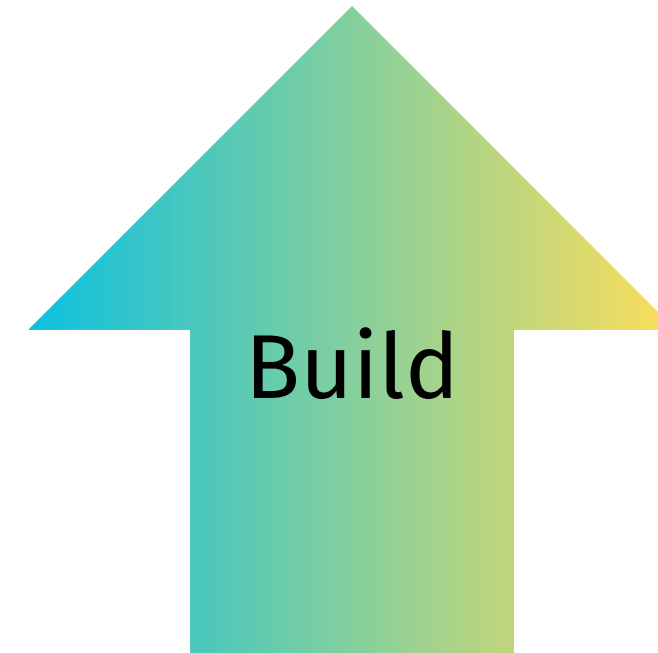
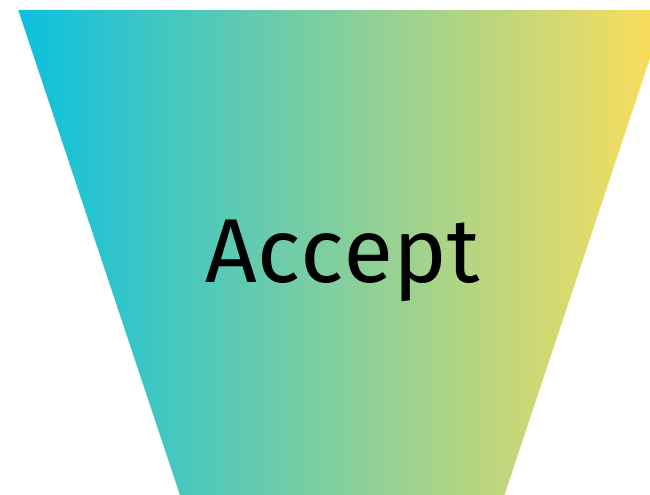
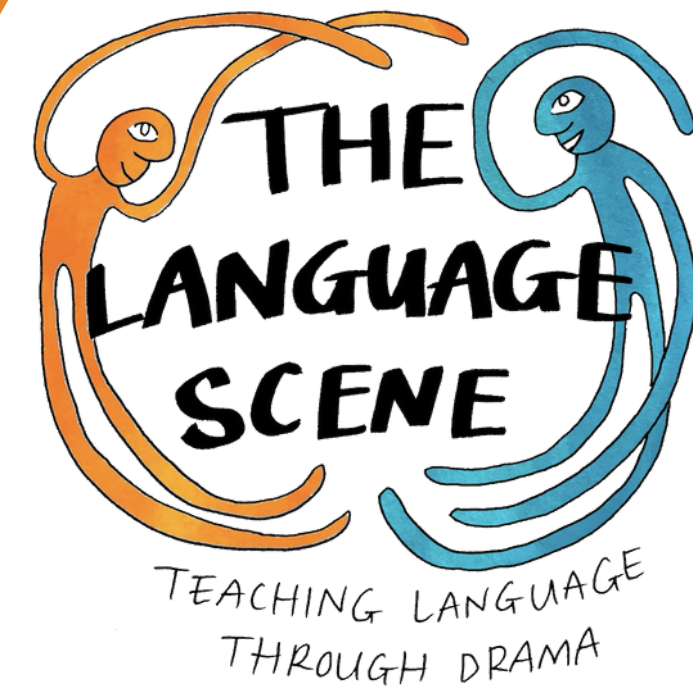
I'm _____, and I enjoy (mime a new activity)

Drama improvisation a.k.a “impro” or “improv”

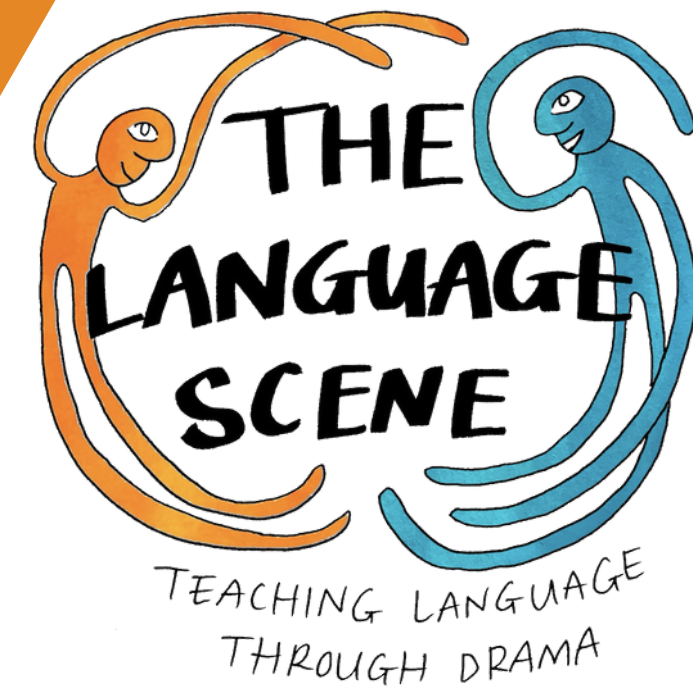


- No scripts
- Speaking/ acting spontaneously
- One actor makes an **offer**: this could be a line of speech, a gesture or even a facial expression
- Other actors must **accept** and then **build** on the offer, not block the offer.

Remember:



Yes, and...



e.g.

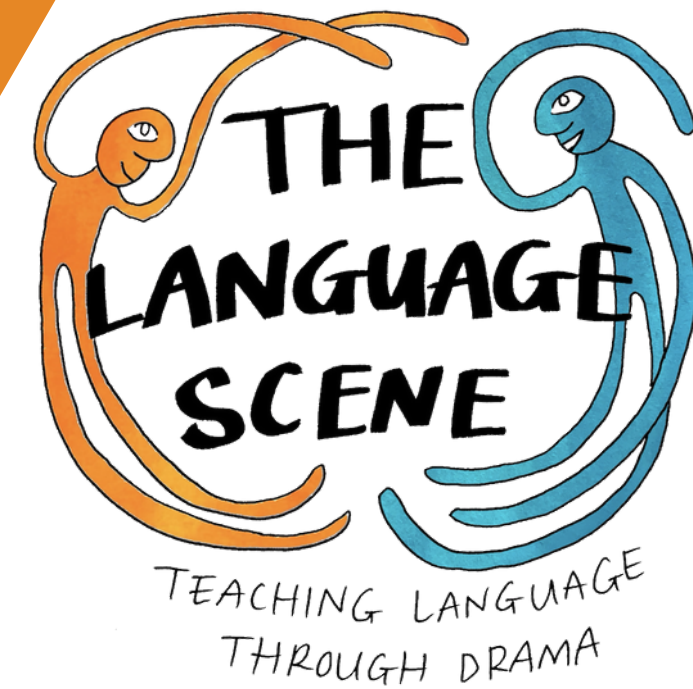
“Let’s have a space themed party for our housewarming”

“Yes, and we could make a huge rocket out of cupcakes”

“ Yes, and why don't we get an alien rock band to play?” etc..

I'm so excited

A chant by Jodie Whitehurst



I'm so excited! I'm so excited!

Why are you excited? Come on, tell me why.

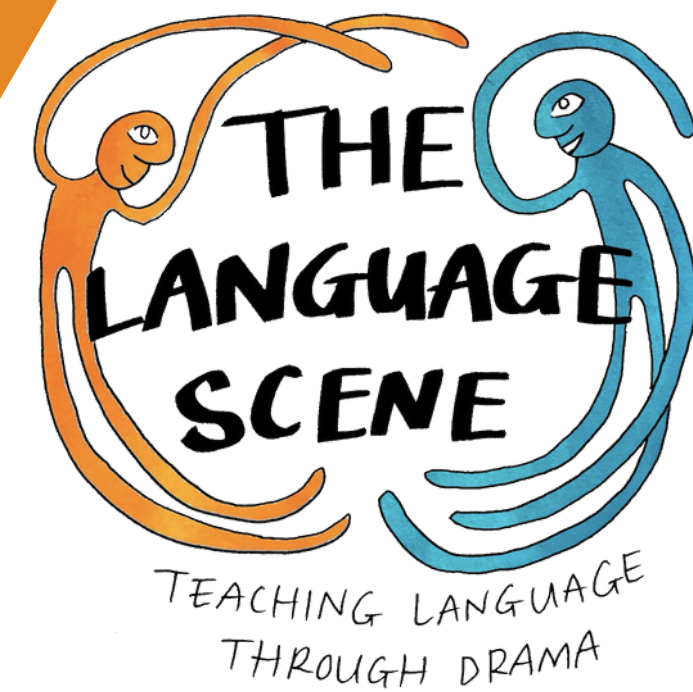
'cause tomorrow is my birthday

Tomorrow is your birthday?

Yes, tomorrow is my birthday and birthdays are exciting

I'm so excited

(continued)



I'm so bored, I'm so bored

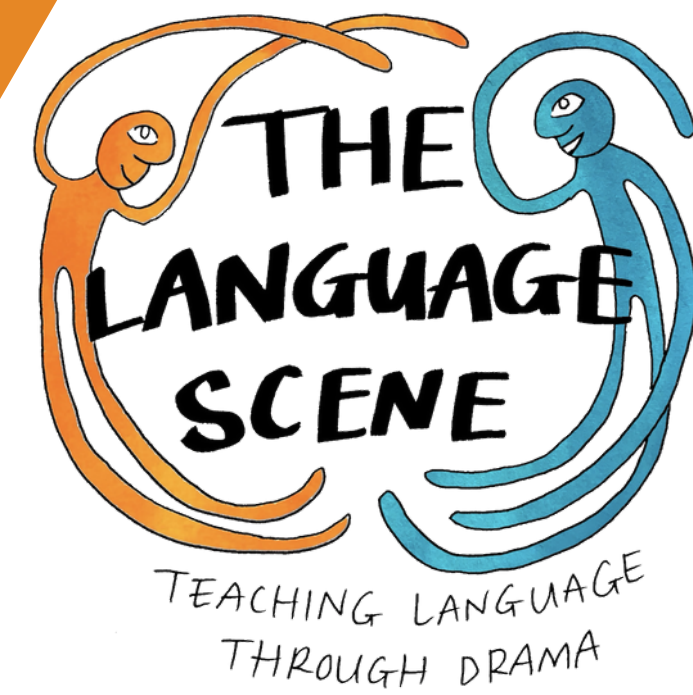
Why are you so bored? Hey, tell me why.

'cause this movie is so long!

The movie is so long?

Yeah, this movie is so long and it's really really boring

Group task



- **Choose one of the three focus adjectives: **exhausted, amazed or frustrated****
- **Devise a short scene in which that emotion is felt and conveyed by at least one of the characters.**
- **Establish the who, what, where and why (no need to write down)**
- **Scene should be a maximum of 30 seconds and the scene and emotion must be conveyed using ONLY THE FOLLOWING WORDS:**
 - Person A: Watermelon**
 - Person B: Canteloupe**
 - Person C: Pineapple**
- **Scarves may be used as props or costume items**

Our co-created verse

I'm so frustrated! I'm so frustrated!

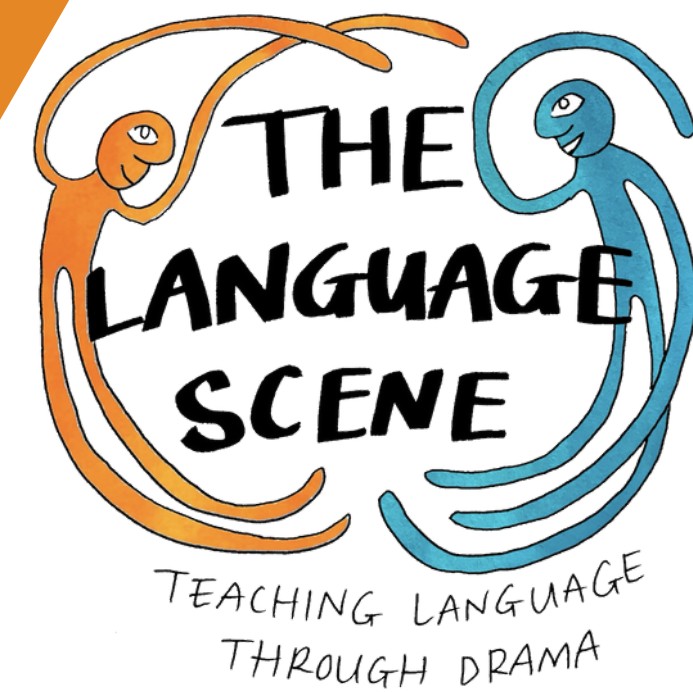
Why are you Frustrated? Please tell me why!

Because I'm stuck behind a learner!

You're stuck behind a learner?

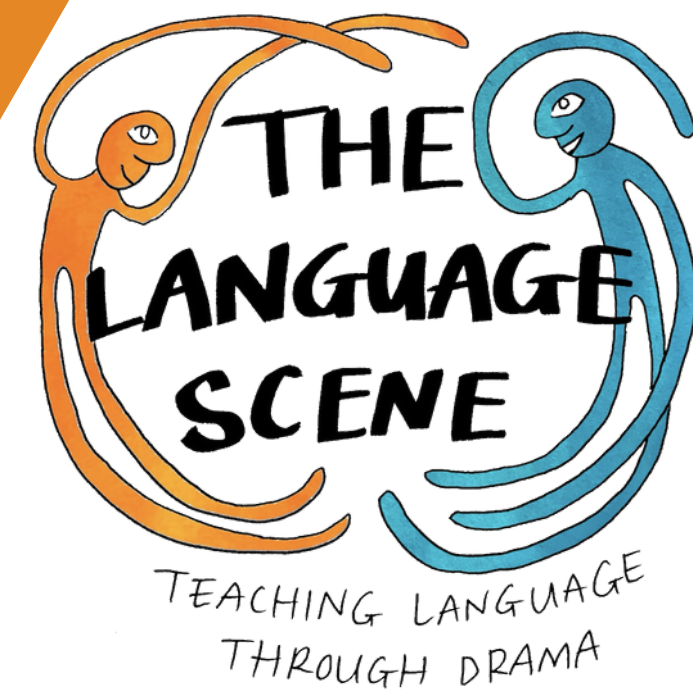
**Yes I'm stuck behind a learner and
their driving is frustrating.**

Reflections



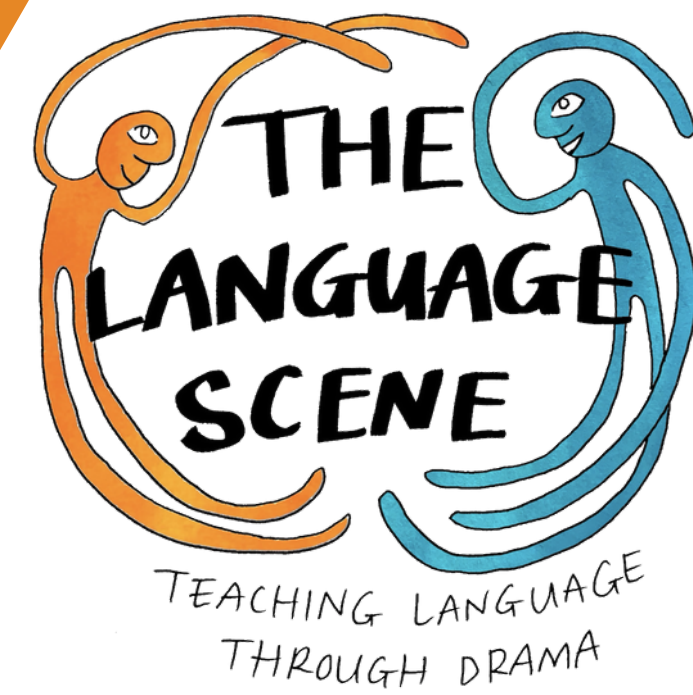
- 1. What grammatical structures/ language skills did we explore/ practise?**
- 2. What other skills/ benefits might students gain through these activities?**
- 3. How could you adapt or extend these activities for your teaching context?**

Grammar addressed



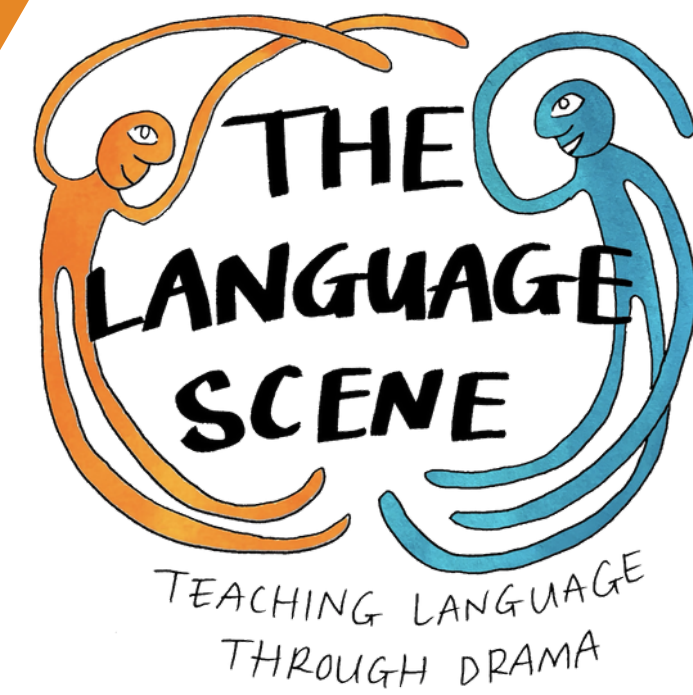
- gerund form with “enjoy”
- third person ‘s’
- adjectives to describe gifts, e.g. soft, stylish, gorgeous, useful
- future forms- will/ going to
- making suggestions “Let’s”, “We could...”
- narrative tenses- past simple and past continuous
- ed/ing adjectives

Benefits



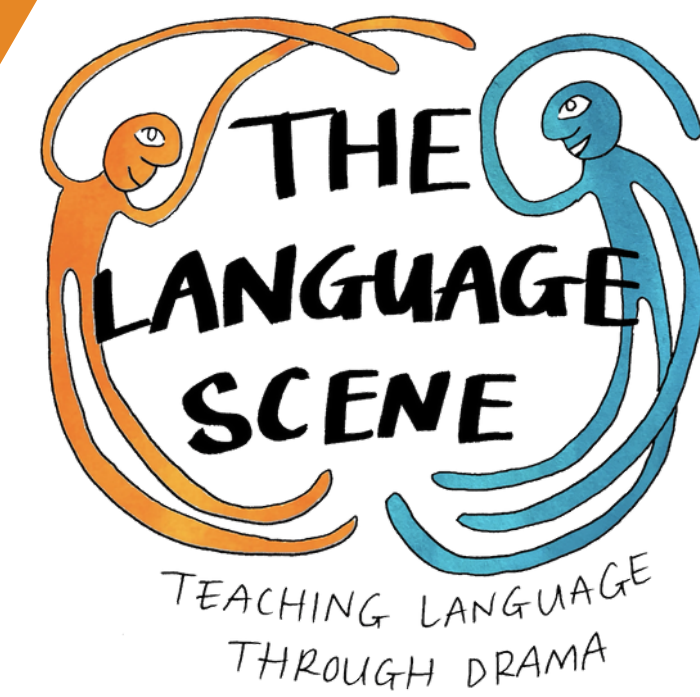
- Engaging and memorable
- Motivating
- Inclusive
- Targeted practice of grammar and pronunciation
- Contextualised language use

More benefits



- **Language retention**
- **Develops expression (verbal and non-verbal)**
- **Builds fluency**
- **Builds confidence and life skills**

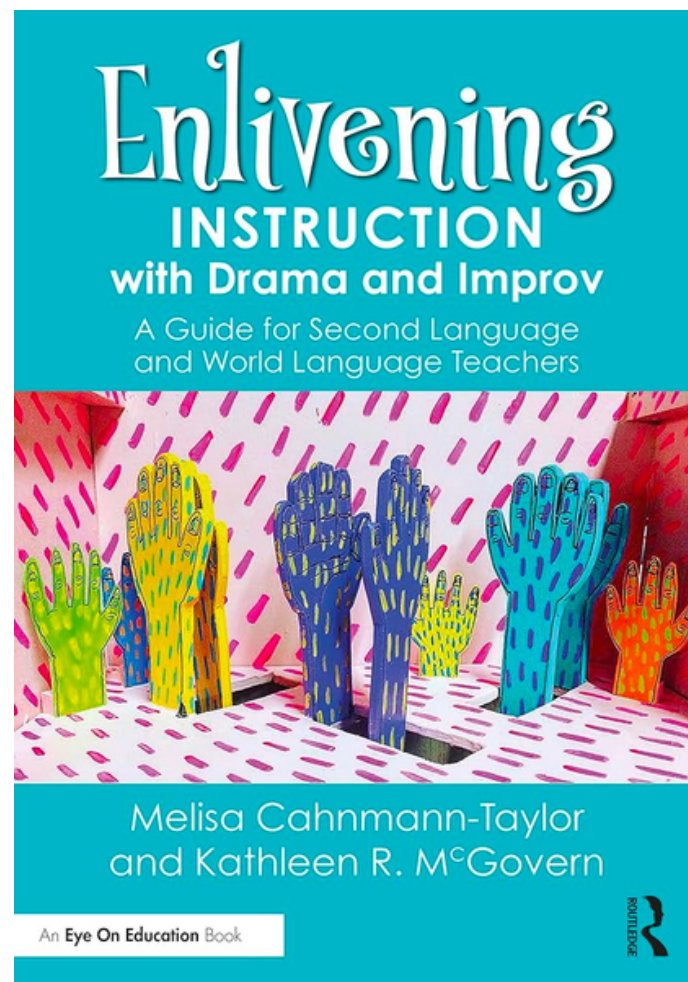
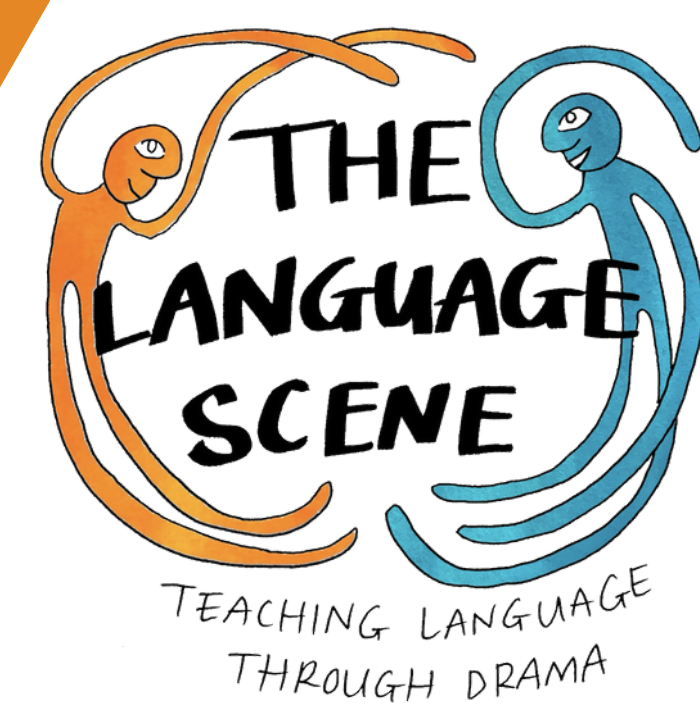
Can the arts help you learn a language?



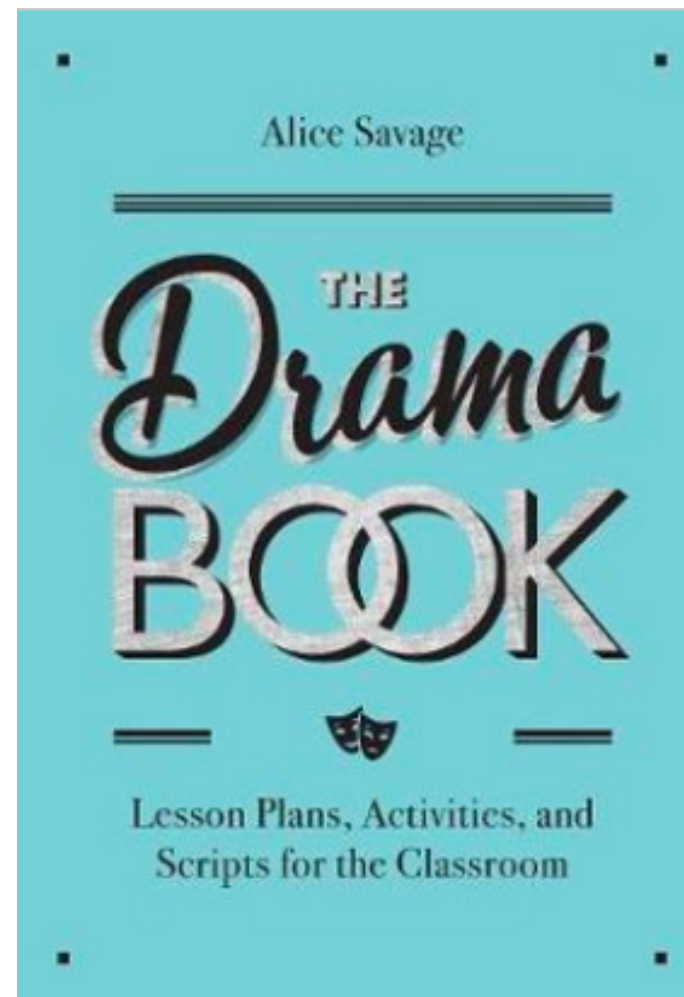
Dr Rachael Jacobs and Dr Erika Piazzoli

Jacobs, R. & Piazzoli, E. (2021, August 2). *Can the arts help you learn a language?* [Video] YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltls_UtJQgU

Recommended resources (books)



**Melisa Cahnmann-Taylor
& Kathleen. R. McGovern**

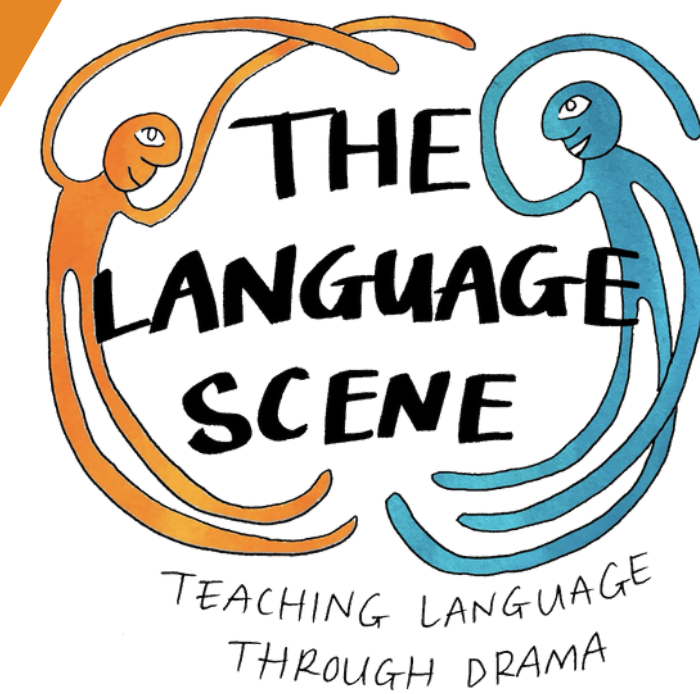


Alice Savage

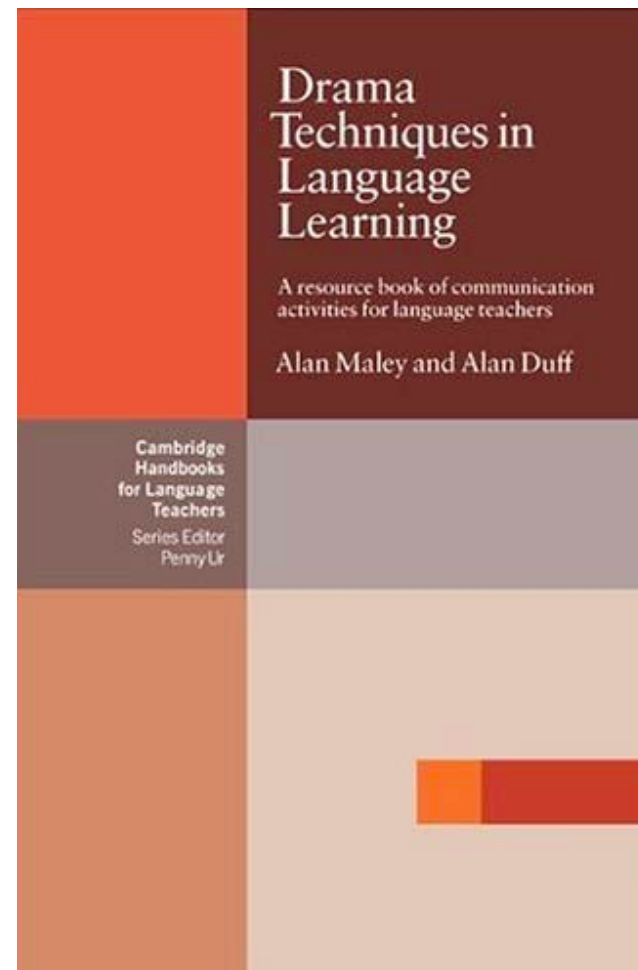


Carolyn Graham

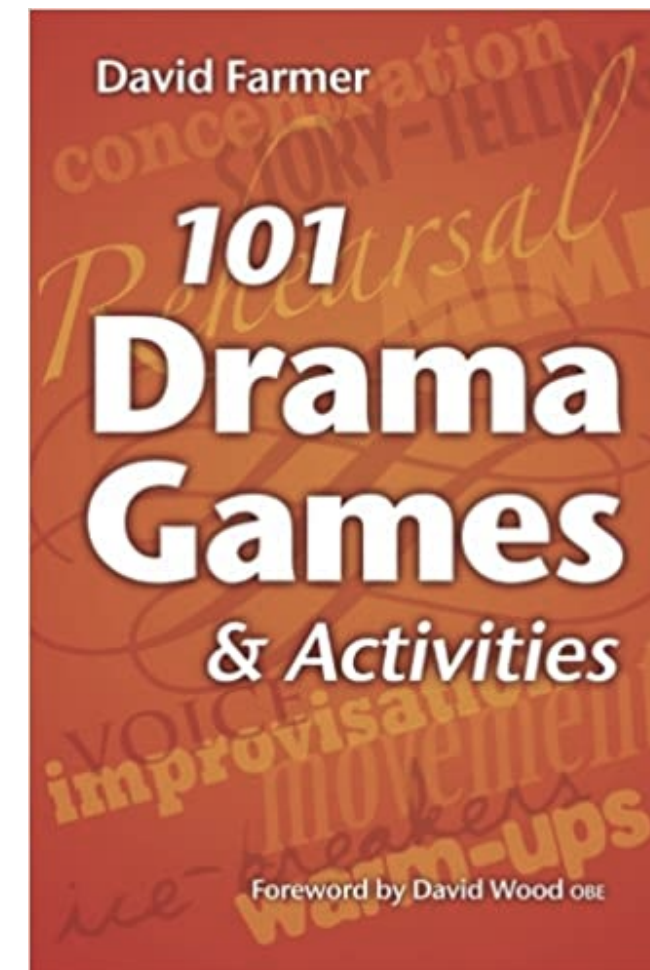
Recommended resources (books)



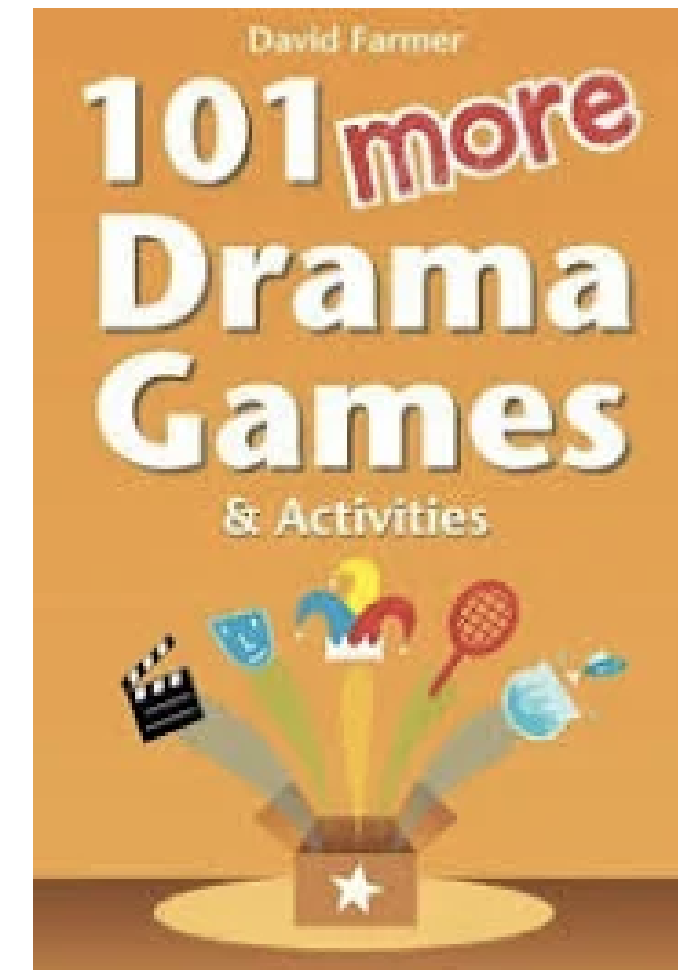
**Victoria Campbell &
Zoe Hogan**



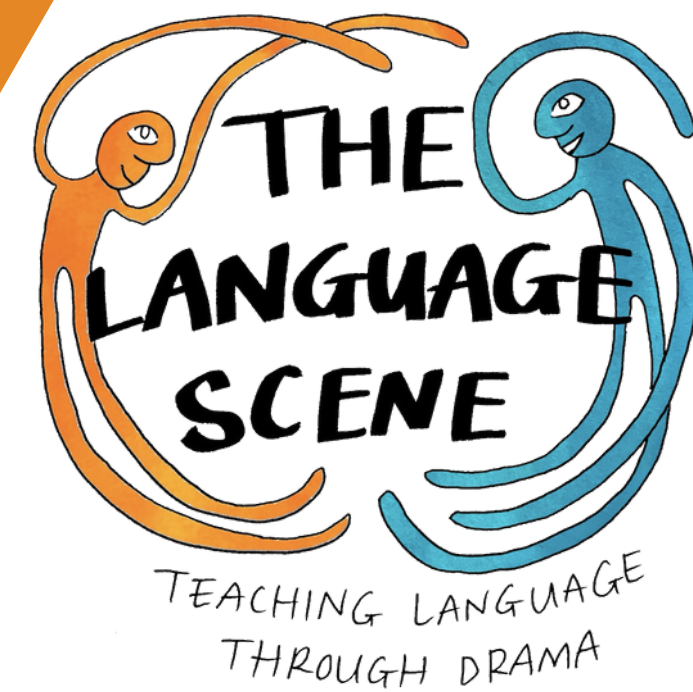
**Alan Maley and
Alan Duff**



David Farmer



Recommended resources (online)



Drama resource: <https://dramaresource.com/>

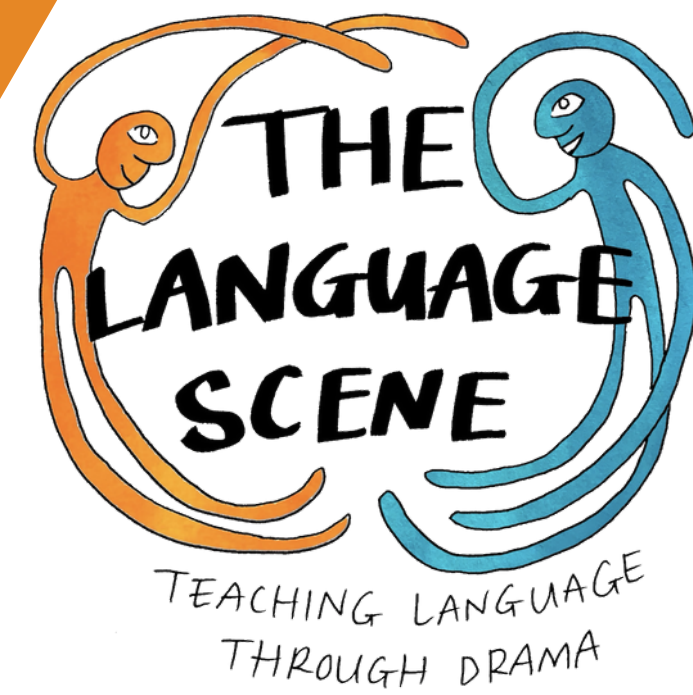


Scenario Journal: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/scenario/scenariojournal/>



DiALLA (Drama in Additional Language Learning Australia)
Facebook Group

Questions?



Feel free to email me with follow up questions: jodie@thelanguagescene.com.au