

NETworking

Using Drama in the English Classroom



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INTRODUCTION

The New Senior Secondary (NSS) Curriculum builds upon language development established in Key Stages 1-3. Teachers are developing instructional strategies and resources to prepare students for the modules of the Elective Part. To support these activities, the Regional NET Coordinating Team (RNCT) has produced the first three publications of the *NETworking* series: *Using Debate in the English Classroom*, *Using Drama in the English Classroom*, and *Using Poetry in the English Classroom*. This series employs examples of NETs using the media of debating, drama and poetry in schools to offer practical support for English teachers.

Many NETs bring a wealth of experience with teaching drama to Hong Kong secondary schools from their home countries. Some have turned formal techniques into language development strategies in the classroom. Others have provided enriching extra-curricular opportunities for students to explore the English language and to gain confidence in using it. The histories and processes of these activities are profiled here.

This publication profiles a variety of unique situations in which NETs use drama. The profiles set out to illustrate:

- the rationale for different ways of using drama;
- appropriate adaptations of drama techniques for achieving specific instructional objectives; and
- the impact drama has had on student learning.

The descriptions and ideas will be useful to teachers when they are developing their own school-based English curriculum to include Drama.

This publication should be put to use in conjunction with the ensuing drama workshops that the RNCT will organise. Teachers will have the opportunities to explore a variety of drama techniques in greater depth.