

**Rani Drew**

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**Persuading teachers and students to teach and learn English through drama:**

**How to write and stage plays.**

Rani Drew (<https://ranidrew.wordpress.com/>) has given drama workshops many times at conferences in various countries. She has also taught full drama courses in Hungary & China.

This workshop is intended to give students a clear sense of how a play is planned and staged. A preliminary talk will offer the basis of theatre/drama, particularly: its differences from poetry or novel; and what makes a play and how to write it.

Students will then be split into groups, and each group will choose a director and actors. Each group will create their own play. The play will require thinking of a theme, i.e, historical or modern or mythical. Then, students will think of the material and do a bit of research: *How would you structure it? How many acts and how many scenes in each Act?*

The dialogue/short play will have to be impromptu or as spontaneous as possible. Each actor is told to think along certain lines following the type of character they are playing. The director, in consultation with the actors, should try to think about how the play will be put together and staged. Once the time for preparation and rehearsal is over, performances will start, with the other groups as the audience.

At the end, after my opinion and feedback on the structure of the play and its staging, the other groups will be asked questions so that they can provide their view on it. Each group will respond to their critique.