

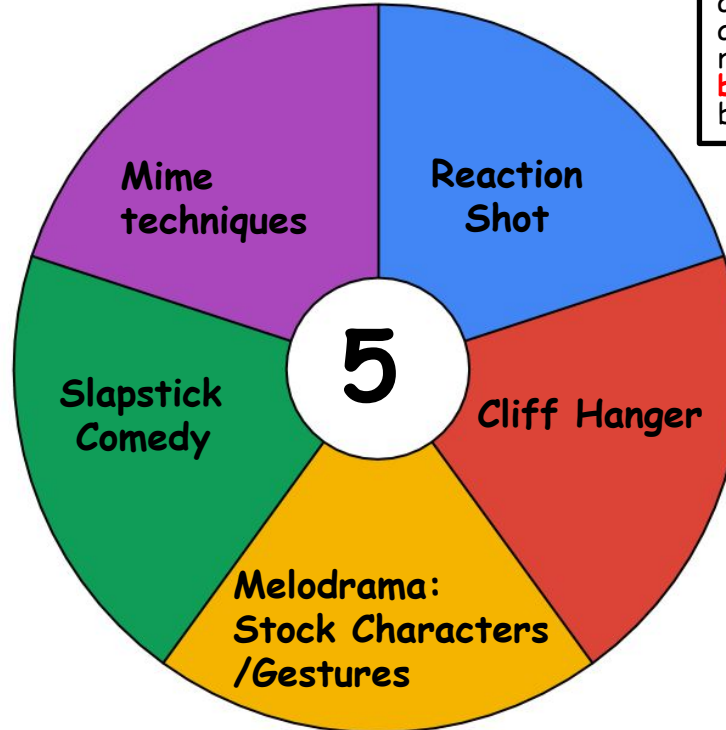


The key ingredients to a successful mime :

- **Precision** (mime placement, putting mimed objects down instead of letting them vanish, remembering doors and tables etc)
- **Speed** - Your mime should be slowed down and not rushed.
- **Exaggeration** - You will need to exaggerate your body language to make your actions clear.

Slapstick is a style of comedy that involves silly humour (falling over, slipping on banana skin slapping someone with a wet kipper etc but never any nasty violence. The name slapstick comes from an object made of wood which makes a loud smacking sound - a slapstick!

The 5 Key skills for this unit.



A camera shot that involves no speaking and the reaction of one actor to the actions of another - an important part of comedy. Some reaction shots are called '**the slow burn**' - This is when the reaction builds up in intensity.



A **cliff hanger** is the term used in drama when the story ends dramatically without coming to a conclusion and the audience is left on the edge of their seat wondering what is going to happen next/ left in suspense.

Melodrama is a genre of drama which contains over the top plots and exaggerated characters. These 'stock' characters are recognisable through their actions and gestures. Some stock characters are the hero, villain, damsel in distress, the villain's sidekick.



Root Word: Melo



Silent Movie Stars



Charlie Chaplin (1889-1977) - A comic actor and also filmmaker and composer. Films include 'The Tramp' and 'The Kid'.

Buster Keaton (1895-1966 - Known for his 'physical comedy' and his dead pan expression. He was also a director.



Silent Movies Origins

The earliest silent movies came about in the early 1920's. Technology was not advanced enough for add spoken dialogue. Music matching the emotion or feel of each scene would accompany the film, it was often played live and **improvised**. **'Intertitles'** were used to narrate the story line and present key dialogue.

ASSESSMENT

For your end of unit assessment, you will be required to complete two tasks:

1. An end of unit written test.
2. A performance assessment of your completed three scene silent movie.

Stock Character Gestures

- Stands back in amazement - take a step back with hands raised
- Shock horror - Hands on forehead
- Oh No! - Hands to face
- Please, no, I beg you! (On knees with hands clasped in prayer)
- The villainous laugh
- The villainous hand rub
- You will die (A cut throat sign)