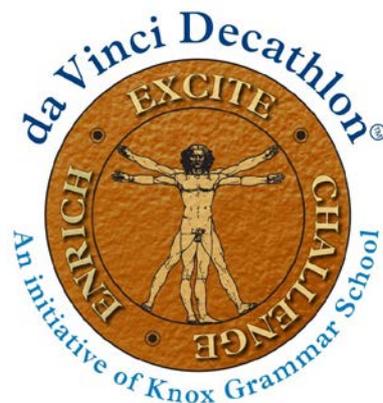


STATE

# DA VINCI DECATHLON 2018

CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC GIFTS OF STUDENTS  
IN YEARS 7 & 8



## CREATIVE PRODUCERS

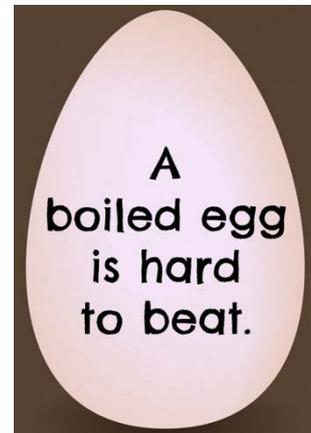
TEAM NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_

# A CLEVER CONTRAST

## CONTEXT

The concept of the 'unexpected' in theatre, film and television is easy to understand but notoriously difficult to perform. It particularly lends itself well to the genres of comedy and horror, which can produce funny or frightening moments when the audience least expects them, or during the build-up of anticipation before a punchline or scare is expected. Yet, the best comedians can merge these two ways of creating a joke. To do this, they build up anticipation for a joke and at the last minute say something that completely contrasts the essence of what they were talking about before. Consider this classic one-liner from American comedian Henny Youngman – *'Take my wife... please!'* Can you see the contrast he uses?



This is known as a 'paraposdokian', where the latter part of a sentence is so surprising that we need to reconsider the first part of the sentence. Mainly used for comic rather than dramatic effect, it is an excellent example of the power of the 'unexpected' in performance. Here are a few more examples:

*'On his feet, he wore – blisters.'* – Aristotle

*'If I could say just a few words... I'd be a better public speaker.'* – Homer Simpson

Can you think of any paraposdokians from some of your favourite comedians?

## THE TASK

Your team will have **eight minutes** planning time. During this task you must create and deliver a maximum **60 second** comedic performance that may incorporate elements of other genres such as realism, tragedy, drama, or a combination of these. During this performance, your team must generate and incorporate a paraposdokian to conclude your piece which the rest of the performance builds up to. This build-up can involve the setting up of a situation where the joke is the climax, the performance of a story with the joke as an unexpected ending, for example. The performance may be inspired by real events and issues affecting people across the world or may be team-devised.

Please take note of the following:

- Your team will be given an auditory warning at 45 seconds and stopped at 60 seconds.
- The performance must end with a humorous paraposdokian your team has come up with.
- The performance must be derived from one of the following one-word stimuli: god, hurt, #love.

Please state your stimuli before the start of your presentation.

For further guidelines, please refer to the attached marking grid.

# MARKING CRITERIA

TEAM NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

SELECTED STIMULUS \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Skilful 9-10</b>	<b>Effective 8-7</b>	<b>Sound 6-4</b>	<b>Limited 3-0</b>
Use of space, voice and vocal/physical expression				
Flair and engagement				
Creative plot, structure and use of stimulus				
Ability to reflect on the theme of 'The Unexpected' in performance				
Understanding and development of a paraposdokian				
<b>TOTAL /50</b>				