

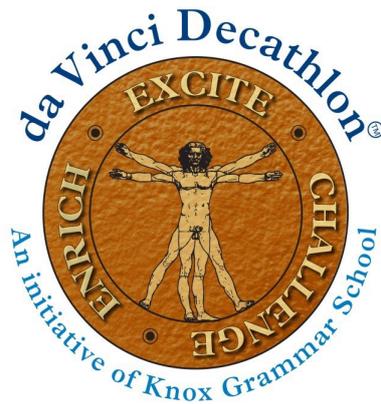


KNOX
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL

STATE

DA VINCI DECATHLON 2022

CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC GIFTS OF STUDENTS
IN YEARS 7 & 8



CREATIVE PRODUCERS

TEAM NUMBER _____

Total	Rank
/40	

THE DIALOGUE DILEMMA

BACKGROUND

William Shakespeare uses a variety of speech patterns to convey meaning in his plays. Shakespeare's selective use of blank verse and rhyme illuminates for the audience an understanding of class, character, psychology and mood.

Shakespeare's blank verse takes the iambic pentameter pattern. That is, ten syllables per line, alternating between unstressed and stressed beats, seen in *Romeo and Juliet* in "*But soft, what light through yonder window breaks?*". Shakespeare incorporates blank verse to illustrate nobility, power and wealth,



though he often subverts this to alter the audience's preconceived perceptions of character and class. This is seen through the character of Caliban in *The Tempest*, who despite being a slave, ironically delivers his lines in blank verse.



Shakespeare takes this even further by incorporating rhyme into his dialogue. From "*Good night, good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow, that I shall say good night till it be morrow*" in *Romeo and Juliet* to "*Double, double, toil and trouble, fire burn and cauldron bubble*" in *Macbeth*, rhyme is used to illuminate a variety of themes like magic, love and mystery, and convey a deep sensory appeal for the audience.

THE TASK

It's time to bring Shakespeare into the 21st century. Drawing on Shakespeare's powerful use of language patterns, you are to prepare a dramatic performance that uses an amalgamation of blank verse and rhyme. You must have **AT LEAST** three lines of blank verse and three rhymes in your performance. Think of ways to seamlessly integrate a complicated rhyme scheme and verse pattern into a prose dialogue.

The content of your performance must be a representation of an action you take in your everyday life. It is completely up to you what part of your life you build your performance around and how simple or complicated this is. Consider how your incorporation of verse and prose can bring new meaning to an otherwise mundane everyday task. Here is an example of bringing a rhyme pattern to an everyday activity. Let this spark your imagination and creativity:

It's a bright and sunny day today,

I think I'll go outside and play,

I'll play outside all day today,

I'll play the day away, I say!

GUIDELINES

1. Your performance must be **SIXTY** seconds in length.
2. You have **Eight** minutes to prepare your performance.
3. You must be in groups of 2-3.
4. Refer to the marking criteria for further guidelines.

VIRTUAL COMPETITION

If you are competing virtually, please upload a video of your dramatic performance.

MARKING CRITERIA

Criteria	Skillful	Effective	Sound	Basic	Limited
Incorporation of at least three lines of verse and three rhymes	5	4	3	2	1
Creative integration of verse and rhyme patterns	10-9	8-7	6-5	4-3	2-1
Creative performance of an everyday activity	5	4	3	2	1
Physicality and voice	5	4	3	2	1
Coherence and structure	5	4	3	2	1
Dramatic communication of ideas	5	4	3	2	1
Flair and audience engagement.	5	4	3	2	1
Total	/40				