

In what way was the stimulus material developed through the drama process



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In the beginning we wanted our audience to feel relaxed and felt that music will be the best way to achieve this effectively. We used to pieces of music produced in the olden days, one was called ' Fings aint what they use to be' by Max Bygrave and ' I don't want to set the world on fire' by Inkspots. We felt that this music will help us set the type of mood we want our audience to feel. Our teacher brought in our first stimulus which was the film called ' The cream cracker under the settee' starring Doris who talked about her past life and present life and pointed out issues which effected her life as an elderly person.

We wanted to portray some of these issues into our play and therefore looked deeply into these issues of old age, analyzed and discussed the different ways elderly people may feel at this present moment or may have in the past. These in addition help us deepen the drama because we came across some of the emotional feelings elderly people feel or may have felt. This is where we decided it would be best to focus our play on one character and portray her emotional feelings. We wanted to show the different stages of our characters life until she was classified as an old woman.

We wrote down all the issues mentioned and talked about in the film called the cream cracker under the settee. However these issues were too many and so we chose specific ones that we thought were more familiar and would interest our target audience. For example weakness, death, loneliness, vulnerability, old age etc. We each chose one topic in which focus and research upon.

My topic in which to research was death and how it affects old age people. We then brought together each individuals research piece and discussed ways in which to portray these issues in our play. In the play we also wanted to demonstrate elderly people's thoughts on society and the effect media have on them. In order to do this we had to talk to the elderly people personally. So we went to the Darby and Joan club which was down the street from my school where we got the chance to interview a number of elderly people and also observed their physicality and how they communicate amongst themselves.

By talking to them helped give us an idea of how they felt about society today compared to society they lived in, in the past during World War 2. We felt that we needed to deepen our story so we decided to look for a newspaper articles which talked about one elderly women and her past and present life which will give us a case study to focus on. However we want a tragic and sad story with death as a way of freedom. Each member brought in a newspaper article which they found on the internet or in news papers and Jodie talk about a real life story she experience. Her story was about an old man and lived in the same flat above her. The old man died in his house on his chair and remained there for a couple of weeks until his body started to decompose giving off a really bad smell.

The fact that the old man laid there dead for several days without anybody knowing about it showed that he was alone and had no family to care for him. This showed that loneliness is an important issue for elderly people. I also found an article on the internet through the Guardian website which talked about a woman called Alien who was sentenced to death in Florida <https://assignbuster.com/in-what-way-was-the-stimulus-material-developed-through-the-drama-process/>

due to the murder of a number of men. However Alien claims she did it in self defense because the men attempted to rape her. This showed the elderly people are afraid of being attacked and also of death which helped us come to conclusion that elderly people constantly live in fear for example, the fear of new media technology, of changes in society, of death etc. Therefore we decided that fear is something we had to show in our play because it is a big issue and is apart of elderly peoples life.

Our initial idea was to use one newspaper article and to base our character on it. However we found this difficult and time consuming which is why we decided to have a discussion about each article and picked out some parts that talked about the issues we want to show in our play and also discussed ways to portraying these. We decided that our character should be born in the 1930 during the time of World War 2. We needed to get an idea of how people lived during this time especially women and how they were effected. To do this we went to the Imperial War Museum to gather information about people during this time.