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I'M WITH HER

DRAMA ACTIVITIES

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DRAMA ACTIVITIES

EXPLORATION THROUGH DRAMA THEORY, PRACTITIONERS & PROCESSES

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ACTIVITY 1: KEY MOMENTS

This activity is designed to familiarise students with key moments of the play. Remind students that a key moment is a moment in the drama which is integral to the plot, character journey, and theme/s of the play.

PART A: DECONSTRUCTION

- Divide students into 8 groups, with between 2-4 students in each group.
- Assign to each group one of the eight individual women's monologues in the play.
- Students read through their designated monologue, then discuss the following questions:
 - i. What key moment are you drawn to within this monologue? Why is this a key moment? What text (direct quote from the text) supports your justification.
 - ii. What did you learn about the woman in your section?
 - iii. What challenges did she face?
 - iv. What did she learn from her challenges/journey?

PART B: EMBODIMENT THROUGH TABLEAU

Students create a series of tableaux that express the following:

Tableau 1 – the key moment you wish to crystalise within your monologue

Tableau 2 – the challenges your character encounters

Tableau 3 – her growth from these challenges

Students are to then embed the direct quote into one or more of their tableaux.

View and discuss performances, and emerging ideas about the play's themes, roles and questions.

ACTIVITY 2: CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

PART A - CHARACTER DISCUSSION

Now that students are starting to develop more familiarity with the eight women in this play, ask them to share their reflections on which of the women particularly resonates with them.

Why? Do these women remind of you of other people in your life?

Are their qualities and character strengths things that you share or wish you shared?

For the next few lessons, encourage students to now focus on one chosen woman in the play to develop a deeper understanding of her journey.

PART B – CREATIVE VISUALISATION

Lead students through a relaxation followed by a creative visualisation to focus on what students know so far about their chosen character.

PART C - WRITING IN ROLE – LETTERS TO MY YOUNGER SELF

Following the creative visualisation, students are to now reflect on how the woman felt during a particularly challenging part of their journey. Gather 'like' women together (e.g students who have chosen Julia Gillard work together etc). In these groups, share your thoughts about the strengths and growth that woman demonstrated in her monologue. Now, working individually, students are to write a letter to their younger self with some advice and reassurance to support them through this challenging time. Students should have 15 – 20 minutes to complete this writing in role task. Music and lighting maybe useful to enhance the atmosphere for writing in role.

If comfortable to do so, students are then invited forward to share their letters, in role, with the rest of class.

PART D - DRAMATURGICAL RESEARCH ON CHOSEN WOMAN

Students to spend some time researching their chosen woman. There is a great deal of information in the text so start with combing the text. What do we know about the woman? What is inferred about the woman? What do we want to know more about? Discuss this final question with students so that they are focused on key information they would like to find out. Begin each class with students sharing their new discoveries.

PART E – TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Using information gained from the text as well as additional research, students are to make a timeline of events in the woman's life. Annotate the timeline with quotes from the play.

Discuss: what government policies and historical events have an impact on student's chosen role at this time?

PART F - HOT SEATING

Siting in a circle, students ask questions of each other in role/responding in role. Debrief afterwards to work out what students need to learn more about.

I'M WITH HER

This play burns with the generational energy of its characters, young and old. It reminds us – all women – of how much power we have in being ourselves.

JUNE OSCAR Former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner

A brave and beautiful show. As a piece of resistance, it's bloody brilliant
SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

A firestorm. A cultural milestone for Australian feminism. Their refusal to shut up is a dangerous thing
AUDREY JOURNAL

This show changes lives. It pulls into the daylight so many of the issues that women are dealing with, from equal pay to family violence, and joins the dots in a way we rarely get to see. Because it leaves women feeling not like victims, but powerful, I'M WITH HER is a game changer.

ANNE ALY Federal Minister for Small Business,
International Development and Multicultural Affairs

Watch the trailer

https://youtu.be/eTUty8xw_O4?si=oEMNEfM9GHtzrrwv

Find out more

www.imwithhertheplay.com

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