



# Objectives:

1. Students will be able to create their “before” scene of The Skin I’m In.
2. Students will be able to revise a key moment of the text by acting out an alternative solution.



# Group Counting

As an ensemble, our goal is to count to 15 together WITHOUT planning.

- We will take a deep breath before we start.
- When two people say a number at the same time, we'll take a deep breath and start over.
- We'll have 6 tries.

## Reflection Questions:

- What were moments of success? When were we on the struggle-bus?
- What strategies will help us to be more successful?

# Playback Theatre: Review

Playback theatre is when we get to rewind and play back a moment that could have gone differently.

What are moments you would change in The Skin I'm In? What moments to you are unfair or unjust?

**Our task is to:**

1. **Write out the before scene**, based on evidence from the text.
2. **Brainstorm dialogue** for different ways these characters could handle this conflict.

# Sample Script/Modeling

MALEEKA

Hi Char, hi Raina!

CHAR

Why do you look like that?

MALEEKA

Oh, I'm just helping Ms. Saunders with something in the office.

CHAR

You Miss Saunder's pet anyhow. She got you that job in the office just to keep away from me, I bet.

RAINA

Ever since you got that haircut, you think you're something, Miss Baldy.

# Let's Imagine Something Different...

**What could any of these characters have done differently?**

**Maleeka- “You don’t get to bully me like that”, “Call me by my name, I’m Maleeka Madison”**

**Char-**

**Raina-**

# Let's Change the Narrative

Now we are going to act out those alternative solutions and see how that changes the scene.

- 1) I need three actors!
- 2) Audience: Call out pause when you hear/see the conflict.
- 3) Let's try out a different solution/new piece of dialogue to try out.
- 4) If you had the idea, come on up and switch out with the actor playing that part.
- 5) Perform the scene again! How does this change the scene? How does this shift the relationships?
- 6) Do we want to imagine a new solution? Let's try out a different solution/new piece of dialogue to try out.
- 7) Perform the scene again! How does this change the scene? How does this shift the relationships?

Our goal today is to...

Finish writing out our “before” scene and brainstorm dialogue for our playback theatre scenes.

**Write it out!**

Using the text and knowledge of this conflict, write out your scene.

**Rehearse!**

Put the scene on its feet!

Brainstorm what could be **different** for each character in the scene.

**Character Name-** What could they say that would make this situation more fair or just?

# Playwriting Structure Example

**CHARACTER NAME**

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**CHARACTER NAME**

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**CHARACTER NAME**

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**CHARACTER NAME**

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**CHARACTER NAME**

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# Let's share out!

**Share your scene with one other group! After you share, invite them to brainstorm new lines of dialogue with you about what could make this scene more fair/just.**

**Perform the scene a second time with this new line of dialogue.**

**Switch!**

**Thank your partners for their feedback!**

# Let's model...

Scene: Maleeka vs Char and Girls in Bathroom

## Cast:

Maleeka:

Char:

Raina:

Anyone else?

## Evidence from text:

### Page 93:

“Why you looking all stupid?” she asks, plucking me upside the head. Like a dummy, I tell her about Miss Saunders and my work. Soon as the words are out, I want to kick myself. I said I wasn't telling nobody about this. Now look what I did.” “You Miss Saunders pet, anyhow,” Char says, sticking gum in her mouth. “She got you that job in the office just to keep away from me, I bet.”

### Page 95:

Raina's still on my case. “Maleeka, ever since you got that new hairdo, you think you're something, don't you, Miss Baldy,” she says, laughing.

How can we put this text **into our own words in an improvised scene**? Remember, all of the characters and events of the scene need to be the same the first time around.

Let's **improvise** this scene!

## Reflection Questions:

- How did we adapt the text to work for us?
- How did you feel about that improvisation?
- Do you want to keep it as is or shift?
- Would you have handled the situation this way? What would you change? We'll come back to this next week!

# Let's Imagine Justice for These Characters!

**In small groups...**

- 1) Choose a scene.
- 2) Cast the scene.
- 3) Act out the scene.
- 4) Audience members call out PAUSE when they see the moment of conflict.
- 5) Brainstorm what could be done differently.
- 6) Rewind with new actor(s).
- 7) Continue until we've found a solution we are comfortable with.

## Reflection Questions:

- 1) How did it feel to change the situation?
- 2) What strategies did we use to resolve the conflict?