

RADIO PLAY ASSIGNMENT

Up until about eighty (or so) years ago, radio was the main source of entertainment, news, and information. Everyone had access to a radio long before there was a television or computer, let alone a smartphone. Commonly, you would find families gathered around the radio during the evening, listening to a story being told and dramatized. Voice, music, and self-created sound effects were the main forms of “technology” that these artists utilized.

Now that you are experts in speech, it’s your turn! In small groups (3-5), please dramatize a short radio play complete with sound effects, music, and quality voice acting. You may write your own script, find an existing one, or turn a short story into a script. Sound design is a critical element of a quality radio play. You will need to decide what music and sound effects would best suit the mood and overall feeling of your play.

You are welcome to use technology to aid you in producing this play, but you may also use your voices and various objects to create the sounds needed for your play.

You will be assessed on:

- Voice quality: fluency, articulation, dynamics, intonation, etc.
- Overall quality of the production
- Dramatization/emotion/characterization
- Music/sound effects

Tentative “Presentation” Date: November 7, 2022

Suggested Website:

<https://www.dramanotebook.com/drama-curriculum/scripts-for-kids/radio-plays-for-kids/>

RADIO PLAY RUBRIC

	5	4	3	2	1
Vocal Dynamics + Intonation	Amazing variety of pitch and expression	Variety of pitch and good expression	Some good moments of variant in pitch	Performance was lacking vocal dynamics	Too soft to hear or one pitch
Articulation	Excellent clarity of words delivered to your audience	Clear communication in your performance	Articulate most of the time, with a few words lost	Lacking clarity and articulation	Words blended together, making it difficult to understand
Music + Sound Effects	Performance was taken to a higher level based on your sound effects and music	Performance was enhanced by the music and sound effects	Performance had good elements of sound	More effort toward sound was required	All sound effects and music were lacking
Fluency	Performance was delivered smoothly with incredible ease	Performance was delivered smoothly	Performance was choppy at times	Performance was lacking fluency	Performance was not rehearsed and completely lacked fluency
Emotion + Dramatization	Emotion made for a highly entertaining and exciting performance	Emotion helped carry the story to excellence	Performance demonstrated emotion occasionally	Performance was lacking emotional connectivity with audience	The emotion in this performance needed more development
Overall Quality	Well polished and professional - you're an expert!	Voices were clear and the overall quality was great	The production was well done, though a few elements were lacking	Quality of production was low and needed more effort/time	Needs improvement

Tentative Presentation Date: November 7, 2022

Group 1: Colten, Gabe, Isaac, Ellie (*'Twas the Night Before Christmas*)

Group 2: Julia, Eva, Chloe, Akeem (*'Twas the Night Before Christmas*)

Group 3: Cole M., Reid, Kayin, Dane, Isaiah (*The Tablecloths*)

Group 4: Riley, Teairra, Jo, Niasia, Alexa (*The Mad Tea Party*)

Group 5: Jullian, Broc, Matthew (*The Barking Play*)

Group 6: Cole K., Jacob, Andrew (*The Mad Tea Party*)