



WHAT MASK DO YOU WEAR?

BY ERIN MCGINLEY

MOSCROP SECONDARY | MEMBER, PLAYHOUSE TEACHER ADVISORY BOARD (PTAB)

- ✓ **PRE-VIEWING (OR POST-VIEWING) LESSON/ACTIVITY**
 - ✓ **TYPE:** CREATIVE ASSIGNMENT/PROJECT
 - ✓ **SUITABILITY:** ENGLISH 8-12
 - ✓ **RECOMMENDED TIME:** 1-3 CLASSES

The purpose of this activity is for students to make a connection with the mask that Lucia wears in the play. Students are to reflect on the masks that they wear and the purpose for them. They may examine the need to put masks up, to keep masks on, and the personalities or emotions their masks evoke.

What Mask Do You Wear?

In the play Lucia is enticed to wear a mask that plays with both her emotions and personality. As a class discuss masks that we wear in order to 'mask' another emotion. Why do we feel the need to wear masks? Why do we feel the need to mask others? Using the template attached, use colour, pictures, words etc. and construct a mask that you wear. You can add quotes, sayings or words that captivate some emotions or feelings.

On a separate sheet of paper discuss why this is your mask. When do you feel the need to wear it most? Did your need to wear this mask just appear or has it evolved over time? Who do you wear this mask for? What would it take for you to take this mask off?

Option 2:

Everyone is to design and create a mask. Design a mask that reflects you. The outer part of the mask should reflect *how you think others perceive you*. Brainstorm words, phrases, concrete objects and other representations that *symbolize* who others perceive you to be. Pictures and/or drawing are acceptable as well.

The inner part of the mask should reflect *how you see yourself*. Again, brainstorm words, phrases, concrete objects and other representations that symbolize who you are. Place these items on the inside of your mask.

On a separate sheet of paper reflect on the relationship between how others perceive you and how you perceive yourself. Reflect on the interaction between self and others. How are our identities created? Are we a reflection of ourselves or are our identities created as a reflection of others? What are the effects of others perceptions of you? How does it affect you from 'seeing' and experiencing life?

You can construct your mask in the following ways:

Visit the following websites for mask making procedures:

<http://www.mask-and-more-masks.com/Paper-Masks.html>

<http://www.allspecies.org/edu/maskmaking.htm>

Please note:

Part 1: Story, Background, Paraphrasing, Creators, Characters, Glossary... is available for downloading at

VANCOUVERPLAYHOUSE.COM

Send us feedback and questions regarding our Play Guides | Request a copy of a script (for educational purposes)

Contact: Stasa Andric at **604 637 3094** / sandric@vancouverplayhouse.com

or Meredith Elliott at **604 629 2097** / melliott@vancouverplayhouse.com

SEE YOU AT THE PLAYHOUSE!

ALL PERFORMANCES AT HAMILTON & DUNSMUIR