Instructional Unit Title: Friday Afternoon Live – Improvisation and Sketch Comedy
Drama and Theatre Arts
High School

The teacher may share a series of professional improv actor performances so that students can understand the aspects of improvised theatre.

The teacher may use improv games, such as Viola Spolin’s games focused on Where (setting), What (plot) and Who (character), so that students can gain improv performance experience with given character and circumstances.

The teacher may introduce short form improv games for performance, such as those showcased on Whose Line Is It Anyway?, so that students can understand character choices in improv.

The teacher may introduce a revision process so that students can write a sketch comedy based on an improvised scene to understand the importance of a revising material.

The teacher may provide a performance structure of a sketch comedy or scene so that students can receive and understand the importance of the feedback process.

The teacher may introduce parody and sketch comedy through examples of professional writers/performers, such as Saturday Night Live, so that students can understand the aspects of the art form.

The teacher may provide examples of written and performing structure of sketch comedy so that students can explore the aspects of the art form.

The teacher may develop the idea of quality in improv and sketch comedy so that students can understand the process of critiquing improvisation and sketch comedy.

**PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT:** You are a Theatre Technician and/or Designer, who is applying for an Internship at a local theatre company. Present evidence of your previous understanding of the art form in a portfolio that will highlight your comprehensive knowledge of stage norms, collaboration and/or design/production process in order to highlight your comprehensive knowledge and ability within the realm of technical theatre.

This unit was authored by a team of Colorado educators. The unit is intended to support teachers, schools, and districts as they make their own local decisions around the best instructional plans and practices for all students. To see the entire instructional unit sample with possible learning experiences, resources, differentiation, and assessments visit [http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/instructionalunitsamples](http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/instructionalunitsamples).