Reduced Shakespeare

SCRIPTS DUE: _____
PERFORMANCES: _____

In groups of 4-6, you will reduce your Shakespeare play to a maximum 25-minute performance.

❑ Read each act and reduce them to their essential plot points.
❑ Each act should be no longer than 5 minutes.
❑ You must include original text from the play BUT you may rewrite sections (if, for example, you want to have a narrator)
❑ You must have costumes/props BUT they should be minimal (as in Shakespeare's time)
❑ You may transpose the time & place of the play BUT the essence of the play must remain
❑ The division of work/speaking parts should be equal for all group members.

NOTE: *All members must be present on the day of performance. If someone will be missing due to 'terminal illness', they must notify me personally ASAP, however the show will probably go on anyway. Let the marks fall where they may.*

Criteria:
Script
• Reduced to essential plot
• Maintains essential character development
• Follows conventions of drama (scripts)
• Follows the conventions of English **/50**
Performance
• Costumes/props suit setting & are used appropriately /5
• Vocal Qualities (volume, clarity, pronunciation) /15
• Characterisation & dramatic generosity (create a believable character & give fellow actors something to work with) /20
• Memorisation /10
/50

Group Contacts:

Name	Phone #	Email/ICQ

Project Timeline

1) _____

♦ Study play as a class. Think about how the play could be adapted, what parts of the play could be omitted, and what parts you would like to play.

2) _____

♦ In your groups, decide:
- whether you will change the setting or style of the play (e.g. The island is a planet; it will be a musical)
- how the setting/style change will need to affect the dialogue/plot/characters

3) _____

♦ Adapt the script. You will have 2 classes in the computer lab to edit the text and to put your script together to hand in.

4) _____

♦ Begin rehearsals. Do some full readings of the script to make sure it works. Try a run-through. If the script needs changed to make things work, change it now.

5) _____

♦ Scripts are due. Scripts must have
- a title page with the title of the play and the name of each group member
- a 'dramatis personae' (cast list) page, listing which group member(s) will play which character(s)
- page numbers

♦ Do NOT staple or hole-punch your script. Scripts must be attached using only a paper clip (or binder clip). Scripts in folders, duo-tangs, etc. will not be accepted.

♦ I will make copies of your script for your group and will keep the original to mark. Your script mark will be based on this script. No changes may be made to the script after this point.

6) _____

♦ Rehearsal time in class will be fit in as we begin the next unit. Full rehearsals are to take place out of class. My classroom is available at lunch and after school for groups wishing to sign-up.

7) _____

♦ Performances. Groups will sign-up for a date. Groups must be completely prepared on that date or will lose marks. Groups that are simply unprepared will perform anyway and receive a mark based on that performance.

♦ Groups performing must bring all necessary props BEFORE their performance. I can store small items securely if necessary. Large items should arrive after school the day before the performance.