

## **Theatre and Television Writing Activity Ideas**

1. Have students journal about new information they learned or a new insight they gained after viewing any of the Theater programs.
2. Take 1 Take 2 - Resources/Materials Needed: Theater 36 “Take 1 Take 2” Video; Student journal or Take 1 Take 2 Student Worksheet (included with video materials) students view the video listed above. In their journal or a separate piece of paper, have them note the differences between the two scenes. Ask them to journal about the following questions: Which “take” do they think was the most recent draft of the scene? Why? Which “take” do they feel was stronger/more dramatic/clearer, etc.? Why? They should then journal about the value of editing and collaboration in writing a play. How could they take what they have learned and use it to their advantage as a writer, performer, and/or director?
3. Scene Writing - Resources/Materials Needed: Videos - Theater 1 “What is a Playwright”, Theater 2 “Where Ideas Come From”, Theater 3 “Influence of Being an Actor, Director, and Designer on Playwriting”, Theater 4 “On Working with a Dramaturg”, Theater 5 “On Creating Characters and Character Names”, Theater 6 “The Process of Workshopping a Play”, Theater 7 “What I Want the Audience to Walk Away With”, Theater 8 “What is a Dramaturg?,” Theater 9 “The Excitement of Being a Dramaturg.”

Have students view the video segments above and instruct them to note what is said about what the following people do in a play: playwright, director, actor, designer, and dramaturg as well as the process for writing a play. Assign them to do the following: Write a scene from a play entitled, “The Dramaturg Saves the Day.” In the scene the playwright is stuck for an idea about (insert theme/ topic/difficulty of choice). In the scene he/she discusses the problem with actors, the director, the designer and the dramaturg. Based on what was learned from the videos, they

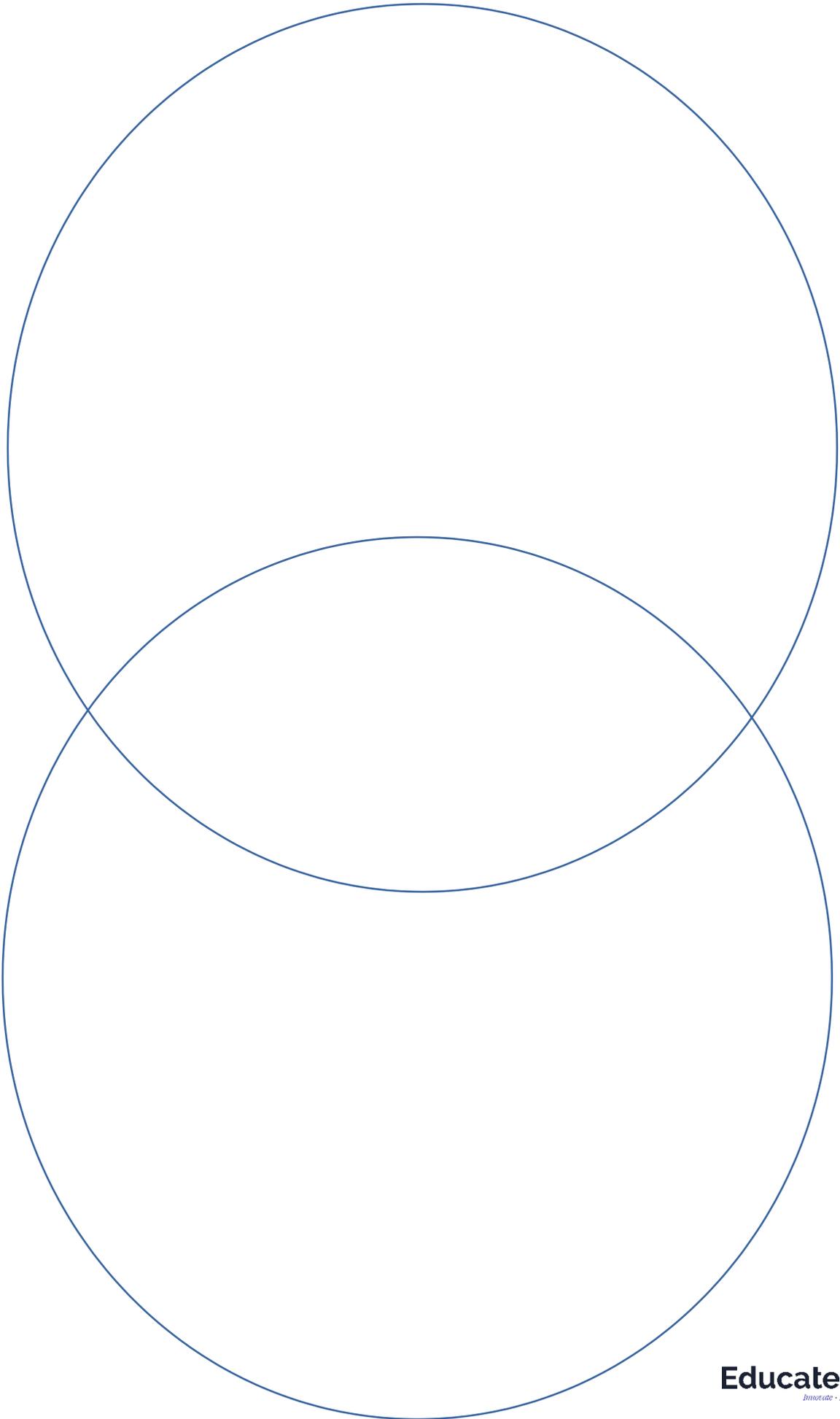
should find a way for the dramaturg to solve the problem. Use improvisation to develop the scene then write the final scene and save it. Have students read their scenes aloud and engage in a discussion of the scene providing feedback on scene structure, character development, clarity of events in the scene, etc.



## Journal Entry Page

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Title \_\_\_\_\_



**Venn Diagram**