

TEACHER NOTES

CHANGING THE PAST – EMPATHY & DRAMA

LESSON OBJECTIVE: TO EXPLORE HOW CHANGING PAST EVENTS CAN IMPACT THE PRESENT, USING DRAMA AND HISTORICAL EMPATHY.

RESOURCES

- ✓ Student Worksheet 12 - Exploring How Changing The Past Impacts The Present
- ✓ Drama performance space.

INTRODUCTION

Ask: *What would you change in your past if you could? How might it affect the present?*

Discuss examples from history where one decision changed the future (e.g., scientific discoveries, civil rights movements).

Relate it to **BACK TO THE FUTURE: The Musical** – how does Marty’s interference impact his own life?



MAIN ACTIVITY

Improvised Drama Task:

In groups, students create a short scene where a small change in history alters the present. These can be taken from the scenario prompts on the next page, or they can create their own.

Class Discussion:

- How do small moments create ripple effects?
- What does this teach us about decision-making in real life?



CONCLUSION

Reflection – ask students: *If you could send a letter to your past self, what advice would you give?*

