

WHAT WE ARE FOCUSING ON

• Characteristics/ characterization of Siobhan, Christopher and Ed

Atmosphere- intended effect for the audience

 Present through the eyes of someone with Asperger's syndrome(or rather show his 'different' perception of the world)-

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CEYKFw6nboY https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDwXqGjohGg

Style- physical, but also realistic to create sympathy in certain scenes

SYMPTOMS OF ASPERGER'S SYNDROME

Above or below average intelligence

- Difficulties understanding and processing other people's language (verbal and non verbal)
- Hyper-sensitivity- their senses are far stronger than an average person; they see, hear, smell and taste everything with a far greater sensation. This means it is hard for them to pick out what the important (or more subtle) information is. Or they can
- Difficulty communicating and interacting with others eg reading emotions

• High levels of anxiety and confusion

Isolation (though often they want to be on their own) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPaplcCE 9t0&index=8&list=FL4 W gCizNgZauB gFE Zzag

Obsessive interests

Page 64 and 65 as an example

ACTING ASPERGER'S

- Do not make eye contact
- Have clear nervous ticks- flicking, rocking, swaying, fiddling, flapping
- Answer everything as a matter of fact
- Do not like being too close to other people
- Extreme emotions/ often confused
- Easily overwhelmed- can lead to screams/ moans and curling up in foetal position
- React to loud sounds or lots of sounds/ visuals (hyper sensitivity)
- Stims- self stimulating behaviour (flapping, bouncing, tapping; general repetitive movements) these are used to sooth the person when there sensory issues are bothering them.

TASK

- Find a space.
- Get into role as someone with Asperger's syndrome.
- Bring character to life and react to the clip spontaneous improvisation.
- Only use your Stim when you feel it necessary.
- Think about the build of tension / change of atmosphere.
 - Play: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDwTQ57Yyz (3.38 mins) then continue the speech: his watch alarm never went off...... He woke up 8 minutes late.......... Rushed to the bathroom to brush his teeth but there was no tooth paste. What did he do?........... He went to get dressed missing out combing his hair because he wanted to save time (but how did this effect him?) he couldn't find his keys to lock the door....... Then the rest of his routine was ruined. How did he try to continue his day? Continue to improvise.

TASK

- You will be given an extract- present this as a rehearsed reading
- You may need to multi-role.

You are not expected to learn the lines, but do your best to physicalize
Christopher and use the other characters to help show the world through his
Asperger's POV

- Extract 1- page 8 'Christopher turns to Ed' to page 11 'Christopher Turns to Ed'
- Extract 2- Page 11 'Christopher turns to Ed' to page 14 'If I make her a get well card will you take it in tomorrow'
- Extract 3- Page 14 'How are you today, Christopher' to page 16 'If you don't go now I will call the Police'

CHARACTERISTICS

Watch the performances and write down anything you learn about-

- Christopher
- Ed
- Siobhan

• This will create a giant role on the wall for all of them.