



Herb and Lois Walker's
SCRIPTS FOR SCHOOLS

The Game

by Lois Walker

A Choral
Speaking/Reading Script
Basketball Theme

for
Intermediate/Advanced
Readers

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The Game

Written and Formatted for Choral Speaking/Reading
By Lois Walker

BEAT AND RHYTHM

To find the proper rhythm, first read-aloud and clap through the text as you go. Each underlined word or word part falls directly on a beat. As you read, clap on each underlined word, keeping the rhythm steady. Be careful not to read too fast! This is a rehearsal technique and readers will not clap throughout these sections during performance. Once the group understands the rhythm patterns and flow of the piece, it can start to experiment with varying tempos, volumes, emphasis, inflections, etc.

ONOMATOPOEIA

This script was written to include a large number of "onomatopoeia words". Onomatopoeia is defined as:

(1) The naming of a thing or action by a vocal imitation of the sound associated with it (as buzz, hiss).

(2) The use of words whose sound suggests the sense.

The challenge: To read-aloud or speak the "onomatopoeia words" in such a way that they truly imitate the associated sounds. If you take time to make this happen, you have the chance to create an exceptional performance!

BASKETBALL

All the "onomatopoeia words" found in this script are meant to re-create the atmosphere of a crowd watching a high school basketball game.

ALL MALE VOICES: The game -

ALL FEMALE VOICES: The game -

ALL: From the start!

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Tweet, tweet... (*high and shrill*)

1ST HALF MALE VOICES: A whistle bleats,

2ND HALF MALE VOICES: Ka-thump, ka-thump... (*low and rhythmic*)

1st HALF FEMALE VOICES: Hearts beat.

2ND HALF FEMALE VOICES: Tweet, tweet, tweet, tweet,

ALL MALE VOICES: Ka-thump, ka-thump, ka-thump,

1ST HALF FEMALE VOICES: Tweet!

ALL: Swaying to the beat of two high school bands,
Syncopated music, coming from the stands.
Then quickly through a door, squeaky sneakers
rush by.
The crowd starts to screech, the crowd starts
to cry.

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Tweet, tweet – a whistle bleating,

ALL MALE VOICES: Ka-thump – all hearts are beating.

ALL: The game -

The game -

From the start!

ALL MALE VOICES: The ball -

ALL FEMALE VOICES: The ball -

ALL: On the fly.

ALL MALE VOICES: A flip, a toss, a flicking

ALL FEMALE VOICES: A touch, a tap, off-tipping.

ALL MALE VOICES: Toss it high, high, HIGH! (*tone goes higher
as words grow*)

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Watch the ball fly!

ALL: The crowd grows breathless, all eyes on the floor.
Whiz, catch, dribble, run – high-hoping to score!
Yes - it begins –

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Tweet,

ALL MALE VOICES: Ka-thump,

ALL FEMAL VOICES: Tap, run

ALL: And whatever happens now can't be undone.

ALL MALE VOICES: A flip, a toss, a flicking

ALL FEMALE VOICES: A touch, a tap, off-tipping.

ALL: The ball -

The ball -

On the fly.

ALL MALE VOICES: The play -

ALL FEMALE VOICES: The play -

ALL: To execute.

ALL MALE VOICES: Shuffle, bump - into positions,

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Analyze the court conditions.

FIRST ½ MALE VOICES: Shuffle, shuffle shuffle (*soft voices, shuffling*)

SECOND ½ MALE VOICES: BUMP! (*loud and abrupt*) (*pause*)

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Get ready now to jump!

ALL: The point guard moves on down the floor,
Pass, toss, toss, snatch – looks around to
explore.

They set up their offense, focus on their goal,

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Wait for the screen...

ALL MALE VOICES: Then do the pick and roll!

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Shuffle, bump - into positions,

ALL MALE VOICES: Analyze the court conditions.

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ALL MALE VOICES: The play -

ALL FEMALE VOICES: The play -

ALL: To execute.
