

Dossier pédagogique

WITCHES ENCHANTMENTS

Most of Shakespeare 's verse is in iambic pentameter.

The witches in MacBeth, however use a different verse form.

“Trochaic Tetrameter” – strong, weak; four to a line.

TUM te TUM te TUM te TUM te

“Double, Double, Toil and Trouble”

This rhythm corresponds to much of modern music and even HipHop or Rap.

Exercise

The students study the Witches enchantments (see attached)

One can break up the speeches into several different students.

Set up –with the aid of a metronome - a rhythm of 110 beat per minute.

The students then start to use anything in the room to create a 4 to the bar “strong/weak” percussion beat to that rhythm.

As the beat continues – start the students with the text.

It might take a few attempts – it is not something that s easy to do if one is not a musician/singer.

If it is too difficult, slow down the beat to 90 beats / minute to get the students familiar.