MAKEUP DESIGN CHALLENGE

1. In this challenge, you will design and apply a makeup look based on a character from a play, movie, history, or popular culture. You can choose a Fantasy character (see the list below for some suggestions), or a more “realistic” character. If you’re choosing a well-known character, try to reimagine their “look” in some way. Keep in mind that you can create a design to be applied on yourself or a family member!

2. Check out INFO ON MAKEUP DESIGN (below) and complete the MAKEUP DESIGN WORKSHEET (below). This will help you create your design in a thoughtful and purposeful way.

3. Gather your ideas! Using the FACE TEMPLATE (below), color in your design. List what you’ll be doing to each area of the face and what products you’ll be using. You can create some pretty great looks without having to buy a bunch of makeup!

4. Try out your design on yourself or a family member (depending on who you’re designing for). Experiment! Try using your makeup in different ways: an eyeliner pencil can make a mustache or freckles, lip color can be used on the skin, and eyeshadow makes great dirt smudges and bruises. You may not get the results you want on the first application; remember, practice is key!

5. If you want, add some hair design to your look!

6. Show your design to a family member. See if they can guess the character you are designing and explain to them what you want to communicate about the character. Do they have any suggestions or ideas to help your design?

7. When you’re satisfied with your design, record a video telling us about the character, your design, and why you made the choices you did.

8. Upload and Share! Follow the link on the ACT Spotlight page to upload your video. Make sure to title it with your name!
MORE RESOURCES

Great read on the history of stage makeup:
https://www.britannica.com/art/stagecraft/Theatrical-makeup

Three easy looks you can create with drugstore makeup:
https://www.byrdie.com/easy-halloween-makeup-looks

A great tutorial on basic stage makeup:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QA04MbwawUg

A wacky, fun fantasy makeup look and application:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ma9GN0C8HeM&feature=youtu.be

“Cats” Makeup:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r2DWKARavMI

FANTASY CHARACTER IDEAS:

Animal: Lion, Tiger, Cat, Cow, Bird, Zebra, Leopard, Dog, Frog, Dragon

Disney: The Grinch, Queen of Hearts, Mad Hatter, Oompa Loompa, Maleficent, Cruella DeVille, Ursula, The Beast, Scar, Hades

Miscellaneous: Ancient Egyptian, Kings and Queens, The Black Swan, Avatar, Cosplay Characters, David Bowie.
INFO ON MAKEUP DESIGN

Much like a costume designer, a makeup artist designs and creates the look of a character using makeup (and sometimes prosthetics). The work process for both the hair and makeup designers typically involves analysis of the script, creative discussion with the director and costume designer, and then research, sketching and note-taking on design. The designer will then meet with the performer to create a look for the show that, once approved by the director, will serve as a template for all performances. The designers will often document this template look or style in photos from several angles, as well as step by step through the styling or application process.

Just like costumes, makeup can provide audiences with information about a character's occupation, social status, gender, age, sense of style and personality. A makeup designer must take into consideration character, environment, temperament, health, age, and race. In addition to designing makeup that works within the style of the show and the character, the designer must also consider the practical questions of lighting, color, distance of the performer from the audience.

Depending on the size of the production, the performers will then recreate the looks themselves before each performance, or their hair and makeup will be taken care of by specialized hairdressers and makeup artists with the production.

Most stage makeup is not like the products you find at the drugstore. Stage makeup is highly concentrated pigment suspended in a thick base, meant to stand up to sweat, and heat, and a little goes a long way. However, many makeup designs contain a combination of stage makeup and "regular" makeup products. For this challenge, we’ll be using regular ‘ol makeup.
MAKEUP DESIGN WORKSHEET

Answering these questions will help you create the details of your makeup design. For each question, jot down a few ideas of how you might communicate these details with your character’s makeup.

1. Who is the character you’re designing? What are some ideas you have about their face? (Clean-shaven, warts, blemishes, freckles, face shape, etc.)

2. What is the gender and age of your character? Does this affect what their face looks like? (As we age, our skin loses its elasticity, causing wrinkles).

3. Environment: where does the story take place and during what time? Does location, weather, time of day or season make a difference in the way the character looks? What about the time period?
4. Is the character healthy? Often, the skin is a good indicator of overall health. For example, people who smoke may have skin that greys because of the lack of oxygen.

5. What is the character’s personality or temperament like? Our personalities are reflected in our face (smiles, frowns, early wrinkles, etc.) How can you show your character’s personality using makeup?