



## Introduction



Language is the very foundation on which we rely to interact and communicate with other. A child’s language development capabilities are greatly influenced by being in a positive environment filled with words, rhythm, sounds, etc. Speech & Drama is one way for your child to be immersed in this environment. Both speech and drama are essential ingredients in the development of an imaginative and exciting performance.

In Seimpi, we aid the learning of language through our Speech & Drama courses. Many parents have had their children benefit from Speech and Drama lessons. The development of motor skills is one of our parents’ main concerns, and through drama such skills will be reinforced. In addition to developing the child’s social awareness and interactive skills, they will also be exposed to other skills in the course. They will be guided on their writing, performing, and speaking ability, which serves to strengthen their emotional sensitivity, widen their imagination, and improve their English proficiency. More importantly, they will have fun in the process of learning these skills. Seimpi offers a range of drama and language skills suited to different age groups. The table below will give you a better idea of the myriad of activities and topics covered:

Speaking	Acting	English
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breath Control</li> <li>Identifying Nasal Speech</li> <li>Enunciation</li> <li>Articulation</li> <li>Starting &amp; Ending Sounds – Consonants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Object Improvisation</li> <li>Listening &amp; Responding</li> <li>Character Building/Embodiment</li> <li>Spatial &amp; Body Awareness</li> <li>Tableaux</li> <li>Imagination / Imagery</li> <li>Blank Verse</li> <li>Show &amp; Tell</li> <li>Role-Playing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Syntax</li> <li>Grammar and prepositions in writing</li> <li>Expansion of Vocabulary</li> <li>Oral Discussions</li> <li>Allegory</li> <li>Enhancement of Writing Ability</li> <li>Exploration of Questions</li> </ul>

Some positive feedback received from parents in Seimpi include their children exhibiting a greater sensitivity to their surroundings, and displaying a greater level of confidence during public speaking. Parents will be able to notice positive changes in their child with the right learning environment. Furthermore, once the child is ready, our teachers will suggest the option of taking a graded Speech & Drama examination under the LCME syllabus. This certification will benefit your child in many ways.

## MIM® Speech and Drama Step 1 (suitable for toddlers)

### Course Details :

Duration of Course	: 1 year
Lesson Duration	: 45 mins, once a week
Students per class	: 10

2 – 3 year old is at the age where linguistic development is at its peak. Although some children may not be able to speak clearly or string a sentence coherently at this age, they can still absorb sounds and nuances by listening and imitating them quite effectively. With this in mind, we have carefully designed **speech and drama activities** that are age appropriate, using **phonics, visual aids, sounds, stories, mimes, and play** to assist your toddler in acquiring good habits in speaking. It helps to improve their pronunciation and vocabulary, as well as curb the usual grammatical errors that some children make. Enunciation and phonics will be emphasised during speech delivery sessions, in order to help the children develop basic phonemic awareness through cultivating their ability to hear and manipulate the sound of the language. They will also be exposed to **character embodiments** of different animals and characters that they encounter in their daily life, like their parents, grandparents, etc. During this course, your toddler will learn to express themselves, behave appropriately in different social settings, and develop an interest for the love of English drama. Our trainers are qualified speech and drama teachers who understand the needs of pre-school children.

## MIM® Speech and Drama Step 2

### Course Details :

Duration of Course	: 1 year
Lesson Duration	: 60 mins, once a week
Students per class	: 10

The Step 2 program is made up of 5 major components. The first is **music and movement**, which involves your child learning the English language through singing and dancing. The second is **English prepositions**, where your child will learn to speak in full sentences. They will be asked to describe a picture, then a single object, and lastly multiple objects. The third is **reading aloud**, which trains your child's hearing, reading, and speaking skills through a series of reading-out-loud exercises. The fourth component includes **role-playing** activities, which will develop your child's creative and imaginative capacity. It includes miming activities, to develop your child's fine motor skills. The fifth component is **constructive drama games**, which will expand your child's spatial and bodily awareness in addition to social skills, nurturing them into confident individuals.

The program will also expose your child to a myriad of stories, poems, and songs. Through listening, repeating, and reading the designated materials, they will develop awareness for the alphabet and grammar from a basic to an advanced stage. Our teacher will ensure that they thoroughly understand the content of the materials and that they can enunciate and pronounce each word properly with adequate expression. They will then be slowly be introduced to other drama concepts such as **object improvisation, character walk, tableaux**, etc. Our teachers will also provide lists of recommended reading materials, which emphasise the association of words and visuals, in order to aid in your child's literacy development.

## MIM® Speech and Drama Step 3

### Course Details :

<b>Duration of Course</b>	<b>: 1 year</b>
<b>Lesson Duration</b>	<b>: 60 mins, once a week</b>
<b>Students per class</b>	<b>: 10</b>

The Step 3 provides various **dramatic and improvisation** activities to strengthen your child's **communication skills, boost their confidence in public speaking**, build **self-esteem**, learn **leadership skills**, make them more assertive and adaptive, and build up their social skills at the same time.

The program is made up of 5 major components. The first is **speech delivery**, through which your child will learn to give a scripted short speech in front of the classroom, akin to a show & tell exercise. The second is **exploration of stories**, where they will analyse different stories and try to read between the lines. This is essential for when they start to attempt comprehension passages during primary school. The third component is **poems and rhymes**, where they will memorise and perform poems to the class. The fourth component, **improvisation exercises**, will develop your child's creativity and imagination. The fifth component, **group drama activities**, will improve the child's ability to work in a team. Through the above activities, they learn about **character building, listening & responding**, and **role-playing**. This is in addition to strengthening their command of English. For example, speech delivery activities teaches them to take note of their 'end' sounds and consonants while speaking. This will further improve their spelling and writing ability as well, as children tend to write the words in the way they converse.

*"When I was alive, I did not know what tears were, for I lived in the Palace of Sans-Souci, where sorrow is not allowed to enter. In the daytime, I played with my companions in the garden, and in the evening I led the dance in the Great Hall. Round the garden ran a lofty wall, but I never cared to ask what lived beyond it, everything around me was so beautiful."*

The above is a short example of an abstract from the LCME syllabus. Children will learn to recite such monologues, and act according to the contents of passage.

Through speaking under the guidance of our teachers, your child will be prepared to describe their observations with suitable vocabulary and hold conversations on various topics. They will engage in group activities, as well as interact and converse with peers in class. Dramatic activities such as improvisation based on given scenarios will be used to expand their imagination and expressivity; this is also known as situational improvisation. These activities are ultimately meant to help your child develop the ability to communicate the occurrences around them effectively, in grammatically correct sentences and appropriate vocabulary.

# MIM® Speech and Drama Grade 1 – 8

## Course Details :

<b>Duration of Course</b>	<b>: 1 year for each grade</b>
<b>Lesson Duration</b>	<b>: 60 mins, once a week</b>
<b>Students per class</b>	<b>: 10</b>

This program is designed to continue the concepts from previous levels, based on the Speech and Drama Graded examination syllabus of the London College of Music Exams (University of West London). The course focuses on delivering professional training in Warm up Techniques (Physical and Breathing), Listening and Responding skills, Voice and Speech, Drama Performances, and Reflection practices. Our trainers will start with appropriate physical and breathing warm up exercises, building on good posture and body flexibility, followed by voice and speech training, making up the regimen of a good actor. Our students are guided on projecting their voices forward in a full, free, flowing, and firm manner. We also emphasize mindful listening, as well as responding well in words and in actions through audio books, dialogues, and blogs. Students will be given scripts in drama, prose, verse, and poems (according to the examination syllabus) to practice their skills with our trainers and their peers. A typical lesson will then end off with a period of reflection where our students will be asked to voice their opinion of the teaching materials used in the lesson. Writing exercises will be additionally given to enhance and reinforce their skills, putting their thoughts and experiences in words.

The above approaches form the basis of our teaching from grade 1 – 8. Teaching materials are carefully chosen to match the standard of each grade, with detailed consideration in the selection of age appropriate topics. Trial examinations will be given for students who opt for in-person or online examinations. In addition, ad hoc performances on YouTube, Seimpi's social media platforms, or in concert halls also serve to boost students' confidence and strengthen their self-esteem to manage each grade's requirements with ease.

Below is a short abstract of a poem from the LCME syllabus - a graded assessment piece:

*"... One shade the more, one shade the less. Had half impair'd the nameless grace. Which waves in every raven tress, or softly lightens o'er her face. Where thoughts serenely sweet express, how pure how dear, their dwelling-place..."*

