

# *Filling the Empty Canvas*

## *The Beginner's Approach*

### FUNCTION OF A GOOD "SCENE DESIGN"

- + Time and place
- + Reinforces the theme
- + Establishes a mood
- + Supports the action of the play

### ANALYZE THE SCRIPT

- + What are the needs of the script?
  - Interior setting?
  - Exterior setting?
  - Multiple settings?
- + What is the style of script?
  - Modern?
  - Period?
  - Indeterminate?

### RESEARCH

- + Historical Time Period
- + Artwork from the time period or art that evokes the tone or style
- + Past set designs from the internet
- + Pictures of the environment or locale

### ONCE ALL OF THE ABOVE IS DONE...HOW CAN THAT FIT WITHIN UIL OAP?

What is completely and totally necessary? Will the rules permit it? Is anything necessary? Can something represent it?

# OAP UNIT SET

## ADVANTAGES

Flexible to portray several  
locales at the same time  
Available at each contest site

## DISADVANTAGES

It's grey.  
Some people think it unattractive  
Can be difficult to use in unique,  
SAFE ways.  
Lends it self to vertical lines.

ONCE YOU'VE MADE YOUR DECISIONS, THEN DECIDE....DO YOU STILL NEED ANYTHING?

SO, IF USING AN ACTUAL SETTING OR A BARE STAGE...

## DO'S

- + Tie down the corners of the set
- + Create obstacles for your actors
- + Let the audience use their imagination
- + In corporate minimalism
- + Use bodies to create pictures
- + Let hand props create compositions
- + Let the audience watch a "choreographed" scene change

## DON'TS

- + Use the unit set flats as walls
- + Put stuff on stage for the sake of having stuff
- + Settle on your first idea...try new things
- + Assume you have permission to do anything
- + Think because the script calls for something that it is permissible