Speaking in dance
7 strategies for Stage 4, 5 or 6

Intonation, volume & pace
Allocate a poem to each student. Read the poem aloud monotone and at a regular pace. Discuss the importance of intonation, and identify where the volume and pace should change. Choreograph movements to accompany the delivery.

Structure & sequence
Explain the importance of safe dance practices and how this impacts the dancing body in a 5 minute prepared speech during class. Provide feedback on the structure and sequence of each speech.

Vocabulary
Present about choreographic form, describing and defining the relevant technical vocabulary.

Language features
Allocate a short story to each student. Instruct them to identify the language features within the text. Discuss how the language features impact, control or manipulate how you would choreograph a dance based on the text.

Movement & the audience
Critically study a dance composition. Discuss how the gestures, movement and facial expressions of the performer encourage audience focus and interaction. How are these reflected when communicating verbally?

Visual meaning & effect
Experiment and discuss the effectiveness of movement, technology, props and resources to enhance meaning in presentations. e.g. Dance vs. Powerpoint

Interaction
Split the class into teams. Get students to interact and debate a relevant dance issue. e.g. gender roles in dance.