

AUDITION MONOLOGUE ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

This assignment is worth 200 points (150 for Performance, 50 for Resume)

- You must prepare TWO contrasting and MEMORIZED monologues to perform in front of the class.
- The entire “audition” must be between 1 and 3 minutes.
- You must TYPE a resume, which will be due on your performance date.
- In addition to a grade, you are also auditioning for a role in the One Act Festival.

Audition monologues differ from normal monologues in several ways:

1. These monologues show the director what you can do. Make sure they stretch your acting and show your range – physically, emotionally, and vocally.
2. These monologues enable you to show the director THREE characters: you, the actor, and your characters.
3. In the introduction do NOT explain or set-up the scene. Only state your name & the play titles. You may also give your character names, but this is optional. Try to show your personality in the introduction and at the end when you say “Thank you.” ALWAYS end your audition by thanking the director(s).
4. You must work within strict time limits, usually two-minutes maximum per monologue. If it is a musical audition, you’ll be asked to do 16 bars each of two contrasting songs. A mixed audition will ask you to do one monologue and one song. These times may vary. Many Theatre companies ask for one-minute monologues using characters in your age range. Check on the time limits. If you go overtime you risk being stopped. Going overtime shows disrespect for the time of the director(s) and the other actors auditioning. Auditions are tightly scheduled.
5. You will not have an “audience” since most prepared auditions are closed. You’ll be performing for one or more directors. Auditions in college are “Cattle Calls”. This means that you’re auditioning for all the plays being staged that semester. So all directors sit in on the initial auditions to decide on their callbacks.
6. I suggest you LOOK at your audience (make eye contact) during your introduction, but DO NOT LOOK at your audience (don’t break the fourth wall) during your monologues. This can really throw you off if they are not reacting as you want and it can make the directors feel uncomfortable because you’re forcing them to act when you make eye contact.
7. Wear clothing that is neutral and suggestive of your character. Make sure this is not a costume and is appropriate for an audition. Wear shoes that are comfortable and will not make a lot of noise on the floor. You want them to notice you, not your shoes or clothes.
8. You may not use props in an audition. You must pantomime any necessary actions. You can usually only count on having a chair, perhaps a table. Plan your blocking with this in mind.
9. FACE FULL FRONT! Be sure to place the “other” character in the center section of the audience so that your focus is out front. Share your face with the director. If you’re talking to more than one character in a monologue, then place one left of center and one right of center, so you are still facing front.
10. Never apologize or offer excuses during the audition.
11. Most colleges, community, and professional theatres conduct auditions using prepared monologue requirements. Only at callbacks can you expect to read from the script.
12. Read the play or novel and see the movie from which you have taken your monologue. It is vital that you fully know the character and all the givens. If you’re auditioning for a college scholarship it is of paramount importance that you have read and analyzed the script since the auditor may very well ask you questions about the play and the acting choices made in developing character.

RESUME ASSIGNMENT (50 points)
REQUIREMENTS

- Your resume **MUST** be TYPED!
- See the requirements below and sample resume (on back).
- Your resume is **DUE** the day you **PERFORM** your audition.
- Your resume may be realistic or fantasy – your choice. • Include a picture, or attach an 8x10 head shot to your resume.

REALISTIC

I suggest **STRONGLY** that you do a realistic resume if you think that you might want to audition for a play outside Free State. Even though high school students may not have a lot of experience, you have to start somewhere. If you are planning to try for a college theatre scholarship, or professional theatre company, you will need an accurate, honest resume. It is important your resume is clear and easy to read.

- List your name, address, phone #, cell phone #, email, age, height, weight
- All information should take up no more than one side of one sheet of 8X11 paper.
- List any special talents (juggling, singing, dancing, tumbling, sports, accents, horseback riding, magic tricks, skateboarding, technical skills, fencing, swimming, diving, sports, etc.).
- List classes you have taken and where you took them
- List teachers you have worked with and where they teach
- List theatres in which you have worked
- List acting roles
- List technical crews

FANTASY

You may choose to write your resume in a romanticized/fantastical manner

- List what you **wish** your experience has been. Be creative.

ADVICE

- Your **NAME** is the most important item you will put on your resume! Make this big, legible and eye catching.
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- Fill up all blank space! Large areas of nothing implies lack of experience.
- Use **COLUMNS** to list previous roles. Usually, the left column is the **SHOW TITLE**, middle column is **ROLE**, and right column is **PRODUCTION INFORMATION** (i.e. Director or Theatre)
- **DON'T** be general about your special skills: Be **SPECIFIC**. For example, growing a beard is not a skill; my grandmother can do that. But growing a full beard in less than a week is indeed a special skill
- Separate Theatre, Musical Theatre, Film, Television, Commercial roles. These are all very different types of media.
- Put your major accomplishments first; directors only glance at resumes & start reading from the top. • Fill up all blank space! Large areas of nothing implies lack of experience.
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GRADING

- You will lose points for spelling and grammatical errors.
- You will lose points for sloppiness; make sure your resume is neat.

- Make sure your resume is easy to read and orderly.
- Make sure information is arranged in a clear, pleasing manner.
- Space the information side-to-side as well as top-to-bottom.
- All play/film titles should be italicized.