



Choosing Your Monologues

You need to prepare THREE monologues of NO LONGER THAN THREE MINUTES EACH.

- ONE CLASSICAL monologue by SHAKESPEARE (or another Elizabethan/Jacobean playwright).
- ONE monologue from a CONTEMPORARY play, ie a play written in the last 50 years.
- The final RESERVE monologue can be either CONTEMPORARY or CLASSICAL and should be prepared as a reserve in case the panel feel your other monologues were inappropriate or wish to see more from you.

We will ask you to perform one SHAKESPEARE/CLASSICAL and one CONTEMPORARY monologue. Only if the panel feel they need to see more from you will you be asked to perform your RESERVE monologue.

You must memorize the monologues and perform them without a script.

DO

Choose at least one monologue from a character close to your age.

Choose contrasting pieces: dramatic/comic, serious/light, active/reflective.

Imagine the person you are speaking to.

Read the rest of the play in which the monologue appears: you may be asked about this.

Choose a monologue about which you are excited as a performer and can imagine playing one day.

Choose plays that have been published and performed professionally.

DO NOT

Mimic the performance of someone else you've seen act the monologue: we want actors not impersonators.

Assemble a monologue from lines of dialogue where another character's interjections are an important part of the scene.

Choose monologues by characters that are mad, drunk, non-human (fairies, Gods or animals) or characters that are wildly out of control: these are very difficult.

Use an accent in which you're not confident.

Worry about how original your choice of monologue is.

Choose monologues from film scripts.

Bring any props or costumes. There will be chairs and a table in the room that you are welcome to use.

One day audition workshops and four day audition preparation masterclasses are available throughout November, December and January. Book your place online [HERE](#)

Monologue Research Notes

The following are **examples of appropriate sources** for monologues. Applicants are **not limited** to the following plays or writers. Applicants are advised to read the entire play from which they choose a monologue as they may be asked about it during their audition/interview. **Please make sure you read the application guidelines and procedures carefully when choosing your monologues.**

Classical Monologues:

16th/ 17th Century – Elizabethan (1558 - 1603)/Jacobean playwrights such as Shakespeare (1564 – 1616), Marlowe (1564 -1593), Jonson (1572 - 1637)

William Shakespeare

Christopher Marlowe The Massacre at Paris

The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus

Ben Jonson The Alchemist)

John Webster The White Devil

The Duchess of Malfi

Contemporary Monologues:

Must be written and produced professionally from 1970 onwards. Not Ibsen (1828-1906). Not Chekhov (1860-1904)

Sources:

http://www.monologuearchive.com/comic_women.html

http://www.larrygleason.com/monologues_classical.html

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The following are considered **unsuitable** monologue choices:

- Monologues from films
- Lancelot Gabbro, The Merchant of Venice
- Puck, A Midsummer Night's Dream
- Afferial Beings (Fairies, Gods, Mythical Creatures)
- Chekov
- Greek tragedies