

Welcome to your Drama GCSE course!

The following slides are your Summer Prep tasks to be completed.

All tasks must be complete by your first Drama lesson.

You must complete all tasks



Your first task is to devise and perform a monologue

- You should follow each step to choose your character, their personality and question you will complete your monologue on

Step one – choose your character

Choose
from the
following
list of
characters:

June, aged 79

Stuart, 23

George, 57

Alex, 30

Emma, 42

Step two – choose your character's personality traits

Choose a maximum of three traits:

Passionate

Assertive

Introverted

Independent

Ambitious

Short-tempered

Impulsive

Empathetic

Optimistic

Energetic

Step three – choose one question you will devise your monologue on

You must answer the question from the point of view of the character

- What does a typical day in the life look like for [character name]?
- What is [character's name]'s dream job?
- What is [character's name] opinion on the cost of living?

Step four – devise your monologue



You should now write your monologue from the point of view of your chosen character



You should aim to answer your chosen question in a way that suits the character's personality and use your creativity to build the story



Your monologue should be no more than 1 side of A4 paper.



See the next slide of an example monologue

Example monologue -

- *(Actor mimes getting into the elevator, pushing the button, and having the elevator start up and then lurch to a stop.)* No. This isn't happening. This is it. My nightmare has come true. I'm going to die. The cable is going to snap and I'm going to fall hundreds of stories. *(Rapidly breathing.)* I'm running out of air. I've got to get out of here. Which button do I press? This red one is for emergencies, right? Or is it the blue one? NO. Probably the red one. Use your head. Think. Think. Oh heck, I'm just going to press all of them. *(Presses the buttons. Waits.)* Nothing's happening. There should be a siren or something. Help! Help! I'm trapped in here! Anyone? Where's my cell phone? *(Digging through bag, checking pockets.)* Oh my God, I left it charging in the car. Okay, calm down. Just calm down. What do I have to eat or drink. *(Rifling through bag.)* Two sticks of gum. Gum covered in lint. I'm going to die. *(Slumps to the floor.)* No one knows I'm in here. They're not going to find me until my rotting corpse starts stinking up the building. This is a dream, right? *(Pinches himself/herself.)* Nope. I'm awake. I'm having a nightmare, but I'm awake. So, this is the way it ends for me. I'll never get married, or have children, or finish my snake skin collection or fulfill my life-long dream of being a fortune-cookie writer. *(Lies down on the floor.)* Okay God, take me now. I'm ready. *(Hears noise.)* I can hear the angels. They are coming to get me. Wait a minute. *(Sits up.)* That doesn't sound like angels. It sounds like a blow-torch. *(Jumps to feet.)* Hello! I'm in here! I'm still alive! *(Elevator doors open. Actor leaps out, pantomimes hugging rescuers.)* You found me just in time! I've been in there for days! What? It couldn't have been just five minutes! Fine. If you say so. But from now on, I'm taking the stairs.

Step five – rehearse and record your monologue



You should rehearse your monologue, focusing on how you act as the character you have chosen



You should aim to learn your lines, so that you can effectively perform as your character



You should wear a costume that suits your character when you film your work



Your work should be filmed on your iPad

Go to the next slide for tips on performing a great monologue!



StageMilk

HOW TO PERFORM A MONOLOGUE

Theatrical skills & definitions

On the next four slides, you will find the following:

1. Most the theatrical skills you will need moving into Year 10.
2. A blank template for your next task. Your tasks is to complete a sentence for each skills using the skills in the correct way.
3. You could either save a copy of this PowerPoint to your iPad and fill in the table, print out the table, or hand write your own table and sentences.

Word	Explanation
Accent	Must be a location or specific dialect - Irish/Australian/Welsh
Posture	The way in which you hold yourself - Hunched/Upright
Gesture	A specific movement - Folding arms/Turning Head/Thumbs up
Level	Where your body is positioned, for instance are you on a low level sitting down on the floor? - High/Low
Facial Expression	Specific description + emotion - I raised my eyebrows and upturned the side of my mouth to create a smirk suggesting I was feeling smug.
Gait	The way in which you walk... - Wide/Narrow/Casual/Limping/Stomping/Waddling
Body Language	This can be open or closed but you must accompany your description of body language with a gesture - Closed body language by folding my arms across my chest

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Word	Example of how to use in a sentence
Tone	
Pace	
Pitch	
Volume	
Emphasis	
Texture	
Pause	

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