

Name: _____

Date: _____



MAKE US A MONOLOGUE PROJECT: *step 3*

WRITING YOUR MONOLOGUE

It's creative thinking and writing time. Monologues can be tricky to write but they don't have to be. We have a step by step process to help you and to make sure you have lots of fun too!

the purpose

What is the point of the monologue? Why is your character delivering this monologue? First of all choose your purpose from the list below by putting a ✓ in one of the stars. Is your character...

★ TELLING A STORY TO SOMEONE

- Is it a funny story or a sad story or a serious story?
- Is it about them or someone they know?
- Is it a story from yesterday or a story from years ago?

★ TELLING A SECRET TO SOMEONE

- Is it their secret or someone else's secret?
- Is it a serious or funny secret?
- Could you get in trouble for telling the secret?

★ ANSWERING A QUESTION

- Are they making up an excuse for something or lying?
- Are they in trouble or are they being helpful?
- Was it a very serious question or silly question?

★ HAVING AN EMOTIONAL RELEASE

- Is this a moment for the audience to understand how the character is feeling about something?
- Is it a positive emotion or a negative emotion?

who are they talking to?

It is very important to decide who your character is talking to when writing your monologue.

As humans we tend to talk differently depending on who we are talking to. You wouldn't talk to your headteacher the same way you would talk to your best friend.

Often monologues are used when a character is alone, particularly when they are having an emotional release, this means your character is thinking out loud for the audience's benefit.

Is your character speaking to...

★ ANOTHER PERSON

- Who are they? Family, friend, stranger, teacher?
- How well do they know them?
- Are they talking to more than one person?

★ THEMSELVES OR THE AUDIENCE

- Soliloquy*: the act of speaking one's thoughts aloud when by oneself or regardless of any hearers. Shakespeare's plays are full of them



Need some help? Check out our Writing Prompt Help-Sheet



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beginning, middle and end

It may sound obvious but your monologue needs to have a clear beginning, middle and end. Treat your monologue like a mini story. There should be a clear change from the beginning to the end. Your character is going on a journey and taking the audience with them. Let's make it super interesting! Plan below what you want to happen at the beginning, middle and end of your monologue. *You are not writing the actual lines yet, just making notes.*

beginning...

middle...

end...



Need some help? *Check out our Beginning, Middle and End Examples Help-Sheet*



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how to start

Your monologue should get the listener's attention right away and draw them in.

The opening line of your monologue will set the tone for the rest of the piece and give the audience a sense of the character voice's and language.

Once you have the plan and outline for your monologue try writing some opening lines. Experiment and try saying them out loud in character to see which one is the most interesting and has the most impact!

the opening line...

how to end

The last line of your monologue is just as important as the first. How do you want to finish your monologue? What do you want the audience to feel or think about? The ending should be clear and strong.

Experiment with your last line below.

the last line...





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moment of discovery



Need some help? Check out our *Moments of Discovery Help-Sheet*

Somewhere between the middle and the end of your monologue there should be a moment of discovery or a revelation (*a surprising and previously unknown fact*).

This could be a moment of discovery for the speaker or a moment of discovery for the audience. Having a revelation in the monologue will give it purpose. What is this moment for your character? Write some notes on what this could be below

now it's time...

By now you should have a clear plan for your monologue. You have the purpose, who you are talking to, ideas for the beginning, middle and end, the opening line, the closing line and the moment of discovery.

Now all you need to do is connect the dots! That's right guys it's time to start writing your monologue!

Before we leave you here are some final tips:

READ OTHER MONOLOGUES

Reading other monologues will help you to inspire you and give you ideas!

Look at our Example Monologues Help-Sheet

USE YOUR CHARACTER'S VOICE

A strong character voice in a monologue can go a long way to adding colour and interest to the piece. Think in your character's voice when you write the monologue and include any slang or particular words they might use.

DESCRIPTION & DETAIL

All the audience can rely on is the words you use to describe a certain moment or a certain detail. You should try to include in as many of the senses as you can in your monologue.

READ IT OUT LOUD

A monologue is written to be read out loud to an audience. So test it out by reading it out to yourself or to a family member.

Are there any moments where the monologue is confusing? Try making these moments more simple so the monologue is easy to follow for the listener.

EDIT + CUT IT DOWN

A great monologue will not be too long or expansive. You want to include the essentials and hit the reader with just enough information to keep them interested. Read over the monologue and edit it so it is not too long or overdone.

Take out any unnecessary lines or confusing phrases. Cut out any words that do not add to the character's voice or language.

