

Monologue Guidelines

- Material must be drawn from published scripts written for theatre.
- Material from other forms such as poetry, fiction, or film are discouraged.
- Stand-alone monologues found online or in monologue books are discouraged.
- Your monologue should be memorized and rehearsed.
- Monologue must be between 60-90 seconds in length
- Practice your slate as part of the audition. Slate must include:
 1. Your full name
 2. Title of play or musical the monologue comes from.
 3. Author of the monologue.
Do not say the name of your character or give background information.

You may use the AHS Play library, or any other school or public library to find your monologue.

You may find monologues online, but make sure they are from published material written for the stage.

Tips for choosing a monologue (adapted from a workshop by Kelly Russell):

Monologues to Select:

- ***Character talking directly to another specific person (in the play).***
- Character in direct confrontation of another character.
- Restrained emotion.
- Character trying to figure out the meaning of an event, relationship or aspect of life.
- Generally, the newer the play the better (with the obvious exception of classical material, like Shakespeare.)

Monologues to Avoid:

- "Story" Monologues (without a point or newly discovered meaning of that event).
- Character-driven/humorous monologues (too much of a stand-up routine or a caricature and not the struggle or the search for an answer to a problem)
- Characters that are talking to 1: The Audience; 2: God; 3: A Shrink; 4: A Dead Person (There are rare instances in which these are good monologues but ONLY if they are struggling more with themselves than with these specific persons)
- Highly-emotionally charged monologues that would cause you to yell for extensive periods of time and for no apparent reason.
- Monologues that cannot be understood out of context from the play.
- Monologues from the play you are auditioning for or role you want. Never advised. It's just a general turn-off to the director. It can make you look desperate or diva-like.

Here is another excellent list of tips for finding a monologue:

<http://www.theatrebayarea.org/news/185679>