



# 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade DRAMA

## Choice Board

<p>Think of a famous person you admire. Choose a person who you can find video of (politicians, actors, activists, musicians) and watch the video, doing your best to notice everything you can about their speech, pose, gestures, voice and emotions. Do your best to imitate that person – this is something actors do all the time. It might be hard at first, but the more you practice the better you'll get. Of course, it's impossible to copy everything, but try to pay attention to all details. Look for videos, too, of actors imitating/doing impressions of other people.</p>	<p>An actor's imagination is key. Think back to when you filled out the character questionnaire for your modern monologue. Even for that small performance, I asked you to use your imagination to come up with answers as to who your character was. In this exercise, observe someone you don't know well (a person driving by in a car, a person walking a dog in your neighborhood, the mailman, a kid riding their bike) and start to imagine the story about them: profession, hobbies, family, etc... use your imagination to figure out who that person is just as you would a character.</p>	<p>This exercise can be done individually or in a group. In a group: People sit in a circle and are given 5 minutes to remember who was wearing what. It's important to remember all the details of clothing, accessories, hairstyle, etc. After 5 minutes, turn around, and the host of the game begins to ask questions like "Anna, tell me what Helen was wearing?" "John, what was the color of Anna's shoes?" etc. At the end, everyone turns back and checks the answers. If you are doing this individually, then observe a family member. After 5 minutes, close your eyes and try to remember every detail.</p>
<p>When you are alone in your room and you have some free time, use this exercise as a way to develop your skills in concentrating on details. Choose any letter "A, B, C, D, E ...." and by looking around try to find as many objects in your room that start with that particular letter (bed, book, bedspread...). Give yourself 60 seconds to do this.</p>	<p>Continue to work on your Shakespearean monologue. It won't be graded, but it's a GREAT way to practice your monologue skills using the words of our greatest English playwright. Enjoy!</p>	<p>This exercise will help your improvisation skills. In this task you will present a monologue on some topic for 1 – 2 minutes without any stops or time for preparation (if you don't have an audience, you can do this in front of a mirror). You should try to avoid any pauses and your speech should sound like you've been preparing it for a long time. At first choose topics</p>

<p>Did you find ten? Twenty? Try again and see if you can continue to improve.</p>		<p>you are familiar with, then move on to topics that you hardly know anything about. This exercise will help you develop your skills of improvisation.</p>
<p>Try to find a performance of your Shakespearean monologue on YouTube. If you can't find your exact monologue, any Shakespearean monologue will do. What did you think of the performance? Are there things you would do differently?</p>	<p>Just for fun – imagine you're the director casting our play. Which famous actors/actresses would you choose to play each of the main characters? Why did you make those choices?</p>	<p>Check out this fun, quick bio about Shakespeare: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3RyQxEpMY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3RyQxEpMY</a></p>