

MONOLOGUE – FIRST DRAFT

Opening Sentence – The first line (or couple of lines!) of your monologue has to get your audience hooked and interested in what you are going to be telling them.

You can create a great opening line by –

- Asking the audience a question

'What do you pack when you have four minutes to leave your home forever?'

- Shocking them

'We have only a few hours, so listen carefully. If you're hearing this story, you're already in danger. Sadie and I may be your only chance.'

- Revealing personal information

'Look, I didn't want to be a half-blood. Being a half-blood is dangerous. It's scary. Most of the time, it gets you killed in painful, nasty ways. . . '

- Intriguing them

'When the doorbell rings at three in the morning, it's never good news. . . '

Come up with a few opening sentences for your monologue below.

Write out your final choice for your opening sentence.

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Main Body – This section is where you are going to tell the main story. You must be as descriptive as possible to help your audience understand what happened or what you are trying to get across. Read the extract below as a good example.

‘My name is Percy Jackson. I’m twelve years old. Until a few months ago, I was a boarding student at Yancy Academy, a private school for troubled kids in upstate New York. Am I a troubled kid? Yeah. You could say that. I could start at any point in my short miserable life to prove it, but things really started going bad last May, when our sixth-grade class took a field trip to Manhattan – twenty-eight mental-case kids and two teachers on a yellow school bus, heading to the Metropolitan Museum of Art to look at ancient Greek and Roman stuff. I know – it sounds like torture. Most Yancy field trips were. But Mr Brunner, our Latin teacher, was leading this trip, so I had hopes.

Mr Brunner was this middle-aged guy in a motorized wheelchair. He had thinning hair and a scruffy beard and a frayed tweed jacket, which always smelled like coffee. You wouldn’t think he’d be cool, but he told stories and jokes and let us play games in class. He also had this awesome collection of Roman armour and weapons, so he was the only teacher whose class didn’t put me to sleep.

I hoped the trip would be okay. At least, I hoped that for once I wouldn’t get in trouble. Boy, was I wrong. See, bad things happen to me on field trips. Like at my fifth-grade school, when we went to the Saratoga battlefield, I had this accident with a Revolutionary War cannon. I wasn’t aiming for the school bus, but of course I got expelled anyway. And before that, at my fourth-grade school, when we took a behind-the-scenes tour of the Marine World shark pool, I sort of hit the wrong lever on the catwalk and our class took an unplanned swim. And the time before that . . . Well, you get the idea. This trip, I was determined to be good.’

Write your main body below.

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Closing Sentence – The final line of your monologue is as important as the first! It needs to round off everything you have spoken about in your main body. You should be leaving your audience with an important message, a final thought, a funny statement. Take a look at some of the examples below.

‘And that was my lesson learned. I would never sneak out of the house again.’

‘That was the last time I walked away from 42 Anderson Lane. And for the first time in my life, I didn’t look back.’

‘If you take one thing from listening to me today, let it be the message that hard times will always reveal your true friends.’

Come up with a few closing sentences for your monologue below.

Write out your final choice for your closing sentence.

Congratulations! You have now finished the first draft of your monologue. Let your teacher check over this before you move on.

MONOLOGUE REVIEW

You are going to be reviewing the work of another pupil in your class. Watch their monologue performance and take notes about their monologue using the table below.

The pupil I am reviewing is _____

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Voice</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Movement</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Audience Engagement/Reaction</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Content of Monologue</u></p>