

Introduction to Theatre



WEEK 3: SCRIPT AND CHARACTER ANALYSIS, STAGE COMBAT

Script Analysis



1. Script Analysis

5 ways to analyze your script

1. What the character says
2. What the character does
3. What others say about the character
4. What the playwright says (in stage directions)
5. How the character treats others

Why is script analysis Important?

you can gain a deeper understanding of the story, characters, and themes, and bring a richness and nuance to your work that will set you apart from the competition.

The best performers take time to get to know their character and story. We aim to bring stories to life!

Warm-Up

1. Read your monologue 3 times to familiarize your self with the text
2. Read the scene again but this time focus on the character. Make notes on your script for information about your character.
3. What does your character say that gives you an idea of who they are? Answer the 5 questions about.
4. If your monologue is from a play or movie, find basic background: Setting (place, time, season, etc.), Does your character need an accent?, What is your character's age?, etc.

Exercise

Objective, Obstacle, Stakes, Tactics

>FIND THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR MONOLOGUE<

Objective: A character's want, need, or goal.

Obstacle: What gets in the way of the objective and causes conflict.

Stakes: The characters why. What motivates them? What will they gain or lose if they don't get what they want?

Tactics: They do things the character does to try and get what they want.

THESE ARE THE BACKBONE OF GOOD CHARACTERS AND PLAYS.

Exercise

Character Analysis Questions

PRINT AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THIS TO
ANALYZE THE STORY AND CHARACTER IN YOUR
MONOLOGUE.

Bring to class next week!

WHAT TO PREPARE FOR NEXT WEEK?

February 22nd

1. Answer all the above questions in order to
Analyze your script and your character
2. Memorize your monologue
3. Bring your papers with your analysis.

STAGE COMBAT



What are the rules of Stage Combat?

1. **SAFETY:** You must establish your safety zone with your partner
2. **QUE:** Your que tells your partner when and how quickly you will strike. You must practice your “que” with your partner before combat begins.
3. **SCRIPT YOUR FIGHT:** Like any other performance, your combat routine must be scripted. Work with your partner to create a story, characters and movements.
4. **START SLOW:** It is imperative that you and your partner start slow. Work on the movements, reactions and body positions. Memorize your ‘script’ before rehearsing at full speed.

Stage Combat Resources

**Introduction to stage
combat:**

[Video Demonstration](#)

Words to Know

PROJECTION: Filling a space with sound

ARTICULATION: The clear, precise pronunciation of speech