

CAST
Take Part

Creating Monologues

Aim:

We're spending a lot more time at home at moment, but what do our homes think about it? In this worksheet you will be taken through simple and fun steps to create a new character and speech from one of those objects at home!

There's lots of things we're using at home, a lot more at the minute as were stuck inside.... Isn't it time we got to hear what they've got to say! In this worksheet we're going to explore what your fridge would say if it could? Or maybe your remote control!

What you'll need:

- Pencil and Paper
- A timer
- A mirror

Step 1

In this exercise we are going to create either a piece of creative writing or a monologue (a speech by one person).

First of all, have a think about your life at home and choose an object that is there. It might be a kettle, the fridge, the sofa, the computer, a football or even the toilet seat! It's up to you.

Step 2

Now imagine that you are that item. Grab your pencil and pen, and write down the answer to these questions as if you are that item:

- What are you?
- Where do you live?
- What is your purpose?
- Are you being used a lot more, or less than usual?
- Why?
- How does this make you feel?
- How do you feel about having a house full of people?
- Give us three reasons for the answer above?
- What has changed for you since Lockdown?
- Who is your favourite person, and why?
- Who is your least favourite person, and why?
- Are they jealous of other items that might be being used a lot more or less (for example a school bag might be jealous of the sofa – or vice versa).
- Tell us about something that happened to you? This could be now, or if your object is being used less, it could be a memory.

Well done! Now have a 5-minute break

Step 3

- After your break, read your answers from Step 2.
- Get fresh piece of paper a timer (egg timer – alarm clock – phone timer – a handy grown up or sibling) and setting a time limit of one minute write continuously as if you are this object.
- Or if you prefer talking, talk for one minute as if you are this object.
- Repeat this exercise three times. Each time, telling us something different.

Step 4

- Have a look at your three favourite versions. Choose your favourite bits. Now write your speech (monologue) as if you are your object. Once you've written it, it's important to have a break, do something else, maybe wait a day or two if you want. Then come back and re-read it. At this point you can make changes and additions. Your fresh eyes might give you fresh ideas and help you see things that aren't quite working.

Step 5

- Choose one line from your monologue that you can remember.
- Now, close your eyes. Imagine you are the object. What kind of voice does your object have? Is it high pitched or low? Do they have an accent? Do they speak quickly or slowly? Are they full of a particular feeling or emotion, such as anger or boredom? Try your line out a few different ways, until you are happy that you have found your object's "voice".
- Find a mirror and start performing as your object to the mirror. Try it using different emotions and volumes. Which way works best? Does the feeling or tone, change throughout your monologue? Perhaps you start angry and end happy, or start jealous, get annoyed in the middle, but end joyful. Play around and experiment.

Results

- Finally, find someone to be your audience (again a handy grown-up or sibling would be great, or perhaps on your next zoom to your grandpa or friends?!).
- Perform your magnificent monologue!!
- Receive tumultuous applause, and if you're up for sharing what you've done email a video of it to participation@castindoncaster.com with your name and mark it Cast Youth Theatre Worksheets.