



The English-Speaking Union's National Shakespeare Competition

Suggested Monologues

These suggested monologues have been provided by The English-Speaking Union of the United States. **If students choose monologues not included on the list, they must make sure that their selections do not exceed 20 lines.** Students who perform longer monologues will be disqualified. The line citations are from THE RIVERSIDE SHAKESPEARE (2nd edition, 1997). N.B. Teachers in the Cincinnati and New York Branch Competitions should contact their local Competition Coordinator for a different list of required monologues.

Play	Character	Lines	Start	Finish
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Oberon	2.1.249-67	I know a bank	first cock crow.
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Puck	2.1.42-58	Thou speakest aright	here comes Oberon.
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Helena	3.2.145-61	O spite! O hell!	all to make you sport.
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Bottom	4.1.200-219	When my cue comes	sing it at her death
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Theseus	5.1.4-22	Lovers and madmen	suppos'd a bear.
All's Well That Ends Well	Helen	1.1.79-98	O were that all	Who comes here?
Antony and Cleopatra	Cleopatra	1.5.19-34	O, Chairman	on his life.
As You Like It	Duke Senior	2.1.1-17	Now my co-mates	in everything.
As You Like It	Phebe	3.5.8-27	I would not be thy executioner	That can do hurt.
As You Like It	Rosalind	3.5.44-63	I think she means	fare you well
Coriolanus	Volumnia	3.2.52-69	Because that now	that want might ruin.
Coriolanus	Coriolanus	3.3.120-35	You common cry	a world elsewhere.
Cymbeline	Imogen	1.6.141-55	Away. I do condemn	What ho, Pisanio!
Cymbeline	Posthumus	5.5.209-27	Ay, so thou dost	Imogen, Imogen!
Hamlet	Claudius	3.3.36-55	O, my offense is rank	mine own ambition and my queen.
Hamlet	Hamlet	3.3.73-93	Now might I do it	kick at heaven.
Hamlet	Gertrude	4.7.166-83	There is a willow grows	to muddy death.
Henry IV, part 1	King	1.1.77-95	Yea, there thou mak'st me sad	Mordake Earl of Fife.
Henry IV, part 1	Falstaff	2.4.466-80	But to say	all the world.
Henry IV, part 2	Rumor	1.1.1-20	Open your ears;	can play upon it.
Henry IV, part 2	Hostess	2.1.86-103	Thou didst swear	if thou canst.
Henry V	Hostess	2.3.9-26	(omit Nay sure,) he's not in hell;	as cold as any stone.
Henry VI, part 1	Joan de Pucelle	1.2.72-90	Dolphin, I am by birth	that I exceed my sex.
Henry VI, part 2	Queen Margaret	3.2.74-93	What, dost thou turn away	office unto thee.
Henry VI, part 3	Son	2.5.55-72	Ill blows the wind	have flow'd their fill.
Julius Caesar	Portia	2.1.237-56	Y'have urgently, Brutus	with your cause of grief.
Julius Caesar	Caesar	3.1.58-73	I could be well mov'd,	do remain to keep him so.
King John	Constance	3.4.44-60	Thou art not	of each calamity.
King John	Hubert	4.2.185-202	Old men and beldames	talks of Arthur's death.
King Lear	King Lear	1.4.275-89	Hear, Nature, hear,	a thankless child!—Away, away!
Love's Labour's Lost	Berowne	5.2.315-34	This fellow pecks	honey-tongued Boyet.
Love's Labour's Lost	Rosalind	5.2.841-54	Oft have I heard	impotent to smile.

Macbeth	Lady Macbeth	1.5.38-58	The raven himself is hoarse	in the instant
Macbeth	Macbeth	5.5.17-28	She should have died	signifying nothing.
Measure for Measure	Angelo	2.4.154-70	Who will believe thee	o'erweighs your true.
Measure for Measure	Isabella	2.4.171-87	To whom should I complain	his soul's rest.
Much Ado About Nothing	Benedick	2.3.22-36	May I be	in the arbor.
Othello	Roderigo	1.1.121-40	If't be your pleasure	for thus deluding you.
Othello	Iago	1.3.386-404	I hate the Moor.	to the world's light.
Othello	Othello	4.2.47-64	Had it pleased	grim as hell!
Othello	Emilia	4.3.86-103	But I do think	instruct us so.
Othello	Othello	5.2.1-20	It is the cause	was ne'er so fatal.
Richard II	Mowbray	1.1.49-68	The bitter clamour	doth he lie
Richard II	Duchess	1.2.58-74	Yet one word	my weeping eye
Richard II	York	2.3.86-105	Tut! Tut!	to thy fault!
Richard II	King Richard	4.1.162-76	Alack, why am I	sent for hither?
Richard II	Queen	5.1.1-15	This way the king	an alehouse guest?
Richard III	Lady Anne	1.2.50-67	Foul devil	arm hath butchered!
Romeo and Juliet	Prince	1.1.81-97	Rebellious subjects	the forfeit of the peace.
Romeo and Juliet	Juliet	2.5.1-19	The clock strook nine	send thy man away.
Romeo and Juliet	Capulet	3.5.176-95	God's bread!	I'll not be forsworn.
Romeo and Juliet	Romeo	5.3.101-20	Ah, dear Juliet	Thus with a kiss I die.
The Comedy of Errors	Adriana	2.1.87-101	His company must do	I am but his stale.
The Comedy of Errors	Luciana	3.2.1-20	And may it be	with an evil word.
The Comedy of Errors	Aemilia	5.1.68-86	and thereof came	the use of wits.
The Merchant of Venice	Shylock	1.3.111-29	You call me misbeliever	I'll lend you thus much moneys?"
The Merchant of Venice	Shylock	3.1.54-73	He hath disgrac'd me	better the instruction.
The Merchant of Venice	Portia	4.1.184-202	The quality of mercy is not strain'd	the deeds of mercy.
The Merry Wives of Windsor	Falstaff	3.5.3-18	Go fetch me a quart of sack	a mountain of mummy.
The Taming of the Shrew	Petruchio	4.1.190-209	My falcon now	headstrong humor.
The Taming of the Shrew	Katherina	5.2.161-79	I am ashamed	do him ease.
The Tempest	Caliban	1.2.330-44	I must eat my dinner	the rest o'th'island.
The Tempest	Prospero	Epilogue	Now my charms	set me free.
The Two Gentlemen of Verona	Proteus	2.4.192-210	Even as one heat	my reason's light;
The Two Gentlemen of Verona	Silvia	4.3.18-36	Thyself hast loved	to depart alone
The Two Gentlemen of Verona	Julia	4.4.91-109	Alas, poor Proteus	with Madam Silvia
The Winter's Tale	Leontes	2.1.36-52	How blest am I	to play at will.
The Winter's Tale	Hermione	3.2.91-108	Sir, spare your threats	I should fear to die?
Titus Andronicus	Tamora	1.1.104-20	Stay, Roman brethren!	my first-born son!
Titus Andronicus	Aaron	5.1.125-44	Even now I curse the day	do ten thousand more
Troilus and Cressida	Troilus	1.1.48-63	O Pandarus!	the knife that made it.
Troilus and Cressida	Cressida	3.2.117-33	Hard to seem won	Stop my mouth!
Twelfth Night	Orsino	1.1.1-15	If music be the food	is high fantastical
Twelfth Night	Viola	2.2.17-36	I left no ring with her	What will become of this?
Twelfth Night	Sebastian	4.3.1-20	This is the air	I perceive she does.