

Audition Pieces:

Auditionees are asked to prepare one of the following audition pieces, using the description of their preferred characters as a guide for the delivery of each piece. Aim to show your acting range in this short monologue!

Perfection is not required. I'll be looking at your level of preparation/memorization, creativity, and ability to bring a spark of humanity to the text. I recommend looking up the meaning of words you do not know.

Please note that not all characters are represented in the following audition pieces.

If you cannot attend auditions from 6:00-7:30 PM (new time) on Sunday, May 17th, please submit a video recording of your monologue to billyh@seact.com. If you can no longer audition, please let me know.

Additional sides will be distributed at auditions for some cold-read fun. Feel free to read through the [entire script](#) if you'd like to prepare as much as possible. The goal is for everyone to have fun working on Shakespeare. The casting will come down to who matches the essence of the available characters, but the goal of the audition is for everyone to have fun working on Shakespeare together!

Piece 1:

I am no villain; I am the youngest son of Sir
Rowland de Boyes; he was my father, and he is thrice
A villain that says such a father begot villains.
Wert thou not my brother, I would not take this hand
From thy throat till this other hand pulled
Out thy tongue for saying so: thou hast railed on thyself.

Piece 2:

Neither his daughter, if we judge by manners;
But yet indeed the younger is his daughter
The other is daughter to the banish'd duke,
And here detain'd by the usurping duke,
To keep his daughter company; whose loves
Are dearer than the natural bond of sisters.
But I can tell you that of late this duke
Hath ta'en displeasure 'gainst the gentle niece,
Grounded upon no other argument
But that the people praiser her for her virtues'
And pity her for her good father's sake:

Piece 3:

He'll go along o'er the wide world with me;
Leave me alone to woo him. Let's away,
And get our jewels and our wealth together,
Devise the fittest time and safest way
To hide us from pursuit that will be made
After my flight. Now go we in content
To liberty and not to banishment.

Piece :4

Not see him since? Sir, sir, that cannot be:
But were I not the better part made mercy,
I should not seek an absent argument
Of my revenge, thou present. But look to it:
Find out thy brother, wheresoe'er he is;
Seek him with candle; bring him dead or living
Within this twelvemonth, or turn thou no more
To seek a living in our territory.
Thy lands and all things that thou dost call thine
Worth seizure do we seize into our hands,
Till thou canst quit thee by thy brothers mouth
Of what we think against thee.

Piece 5:

O, that thou knew'st how I do love her!
No, thou canst not guess,
How many actions most ridiculous
Hast I been drawn to by thy fantasy?
A thousand that I have forgotten.
O, thou didst then ne'er love so heartily!
If thou remember'st not the slightest folly
That ever love did make thee run into,
Thou hast not loved:
Or if thou hast not sat as I do now,
Wearying thy hearer in thy mistress' praise,
Thou hast not loved:
O Phebe, Phebe, Phebe!

Piece 6:

All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players:
They have their exits and their entrances;
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,
Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.
And then the whining school-boy, with his satchel
And shining morning face, creeping like snail
Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,
Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad
Made to his mistress' eyebrow.

Piece 7:

Truly, shepherd, in respect of itself, it is a good
life, but in respect that it is a shepherd's life,
it is naught. In respect that it is solitary, I
like it very well; but in respect that it is
private, it is a very vile life. Now, in respect it
is in the fields, it pleaseth me well; but in
respect it is not in the court, it is tedious.
Hast any philosophy in thee, shepherd?

Piece 8:

There is none of my uncle's marks upon you: he
taught me how to know a man in love; in which cage
of rushes I am sure you are not prisoner.
A lean cheek, which you have not, a blue eye and
sunken, which you have not, an unquestionable
spirit, which you have not, a beard neglected,
which you have not; but I pardon you for that, for
simply your having in beard is a younger brother's
revenue: then your hose should be ungartered, your
bonnet unbanded, your sleeve unbuttoned, your shoe
untied and every thing about you demonstrating a
careless desolation; but you are no such man;

CHARACTERS:

ORLANDO [M] 74 lines

Youngest son of the late Sir Rowland, later in love with Rosalind.

OLIVER [M] 28 lines

Eldest son of the late Sir Rowland, later in love with Celia.

TOUCHSTONE [M] 28 lines

A clown in the court of Duke Frederick, later in love with Audrey.

SILVIUS [A] 15 lines

A poetic shepherd, in love with Phebe.

ADAM [A] 8 lines

Servant to Orlando.

CHARLES [A] 8 lines

Wrestler for Duke Frederick.

SIR OLIVER MARTEXT [A] 2 lines

A country vicar.

JACQUES (DE BOYS) [A] 1 line

Second son of the late Sir Rowland.

WILLIAM [A] 6 lines

A country bumpkin.

ROSALIND [F] 113 lines

Daughter of Duke Senior, later in love with Orlando. Disguises herself as a male page, Ganymede.

CELIA [F] 53 lines

Daughter of Duke Frederick, later in love with Oliver. Disguises herself as Aliena.

PHEBE [F] 17 lines

A shepherdess who falls in love with Ganymede.

AUDREY [F] 13 lines

A woman from the country.

DUKE FREDERICK/DUCHESS FREDERICA [A] 13 lines

Ruler of the court; he sent Duke Senior, his brother, into exile in the Forest of Arden.

DUKE SENIOR/DUCHESS SENIOR [A] 14 lines

Sent into exile and living happily in the Forest of Arden. Friend of the late Sir Rowland.

JAQUES (pronounced JAY-kweez) [M] 22 lines

Lord attending Duke Senior.

CORIN/CORINNE [A] 1 line

An older shepherd.

LE BEAU [A] 7 lines

Servant of Duke Frederick.

HYMEN [A] 3 lines

Lord attending on Duke Senior in disguise as the God of Marriage.

LORDS/LADIES [A] 0 lines

Attending both Dukes.