



# Theatre Virtual Learning

## Acting III & Acting IV Audition Workshop

**Date: April 23, 2020**



Advanced Acting Auditions  
Lesson: [April 23, 2020]

**Objective/Learning Target:**  
**The student will learn what to do at the audition**

# Bell Ringer/Let's Get Started

Answer these questions:

What would you wear to an audition?

Should you “dress the part”?

When you walk into the audition, what do you do?

How do you start your monologue?

How do you end it?

What do you do after the audition piece is finished?



# At the audition: How to look

- Wear what is appropriate. Look nice and professional. Some recommend to always wear to the second audition what you wore to the first. A similar color is also a good option. This helps the auditors remember you better.
- Wear shoes you can easily move in, but are not sloppy.
- Be clean and well-groomed.
- Make introductions work for you. Relax when you enter. Find a specific place to look during the introduction (not the floor).
- If the auditors introduce themselves, look at the directly in the eye and shake their hands, if possible.
- If an actor is too frightened to make eye contact, the auditors become nervous for them. It makes it more difficult to watch the audition.



# At the audition: How to act

- Strangers are never interested in your health, so do not bother to tell them about it.
- When you have the auditor's attention, it is customary to announce your name, the title and author of the piece. (Do not go into a lengthy explanation about the piece.) Just pause and begin your piece.
- Do not stand for a long time to prepare to begin. If you take forever to get ready. They are going to expect nothing short of brilliance. No matter what you do, you are liable to disappoint them after a dramatic build-up.
- Do not bring tons of props to set up. They want to see you act, not show how you can design a set. You may have one chair or stool to use provided.



# At the audition: How to act, cont.

- Do not perform directly to the auditors.
- Unless they instruct you otherwise. Most auditors prefer that you do not direct your focus at them. It makes it more difficult for them to relax, and enjoy your work. You are making them a part of the scene by playing the piece to them.
- Pick an imaginary spot of focus located so they can see your face clearly.
- Do not forget 2 important aspects of performance: Being seen and heard. Make sure they see your face and project your voice. Fill the room with your voice.



# At the audition: How to act, cont.

- Finish your scene, give it a few moments to set in, then drop out of character. Look at the auditors and say “Thank you” as mentioned before.
- Then: leave yourself open to whatever happens. You may be dismissed or asked to stay and talk more, or even do another piece. Your auditors may even be thinking about scheduling a callback, but if you are halfway out the door, they may change their minds.



- Never apologize. Even if you think it was the worst audition you have ever done, do not make a face or roll your eyes or in any way show the auditors you think your audition was awful. This behavior shows insecurity. They may think your audition was the best they have seen that day.

# At the audition: How to act, cont.

'Just go in there  
and remember...  
**you're fantastic!**

**YOU'RE BEING  
JUDGED NO  
MATTER WHAT,  
SO BE WHO YOU  
WANT TO BE.**

- During the entire process keep this in mind: They want to like you. They want you to be great, because that makes their job easier.
- Relax and have a good time.
- Auditioning is very subjective. If you audition for a panel of 5 people, each one could have a very different opinion about your work.
- Who gets the role has little to do with yourself. Do not take it personally.
- If there is a leading lady they already want who is 5'10" and you are an incredible actor who is 5'5", you can give the best audition of everyone, but not get the part. That is just how it is.



# Reflection

- Your look should be appropriate for the image you want.
- Be confident.
- Be professional.
- Enjoy the experience.
- Understand casting is not based solely on skill.



# Practice

Look at your answers to these bellwork questions (do you want to change your answer now?):

What would you wear to an audition?

Should you “dress the part”?

When you walk into the audition, what do you do?

How do you start your monologue?

How do you end it?

What do you do after the audition piece is finished?



# Practice Continued

Task:

For this activity you are going to take on the role of the auditioner. First, use the link and choose two video clips of auditions to watch. Then, if you were giving advice to the actor, what would you list as their strengths and how would you encourage improvement?

[MONOLOGUES TO WATCH](#)

