



Acting 1 & 2 (Introductory Acting)
Character Development from a Script
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Learning Objective:

The student will use script analysis to develop a character.

Bell Ringer:

Describe a performance by an actor where you truly believed they were the character. What made their performance so believable?

Lesson Steps:

If you are cast in a play, the first thing that you should do is to study the play. You need to understand the plot, themes, and characters' backgrounds, motivations, and relationships.

We are going to pretend that you have been cast in the play *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams. *The Glass Menagerie* is considered an American classic and is produced quite often. It only has four characters and can be produced on a very low budget.

In this unit, we will use the first four lessons to read the play and to keep "character shopping lists" for each of the four characters. If any information is given about the character through descriptions or dialogue, record it on the character's shopping list.

On the fifth day of the unit, there is a multiple choice test to see how well you did with the action of the play.

Practice:

1. First, read the introduction and scenes 1 and 2.

[*The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams](#)

2. Record information you learn about your chosen character on your character shopping list. You will need to make a copy of this shopping list for each character: Amanda, Tom, Laura, Jim

[Character Shopping List](#)