

MEMORIZING TIPS FOR MONOLOGUES

Your brain was created by God to hold a lot of information. Every day you are learning new things but there is also so much that you already know. Aren't you glad you don't have to re-learn how to count or read or write every morning you get up? Our brain is like a small, but efficient filing cabinet. When you need information it's there, tucked away. If it isn't readily available then you need to review the information or learn it so it is there. Repetition is a way of keeping it there. Saying, "I can't remember that!" is a way of never getting it there in the first place. Give yourself a chance by following these tips:

1. First, read over your material and be familiar with it and what it is about.
2. Divide it into smaller sections. Remember: How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time. Don't let how long something looks intimidate you. Break it up into bite-sized pieces that can be memorized.
3. **Memorize** the first section until you **know** it, then move onto the next. Memorize it until you know it. DON'T keep starting at the beginning. Now put the first and second section together until it goes smoothly. Move on to the third until you know it then put all three sections together and so on.
4. Identify the **action words** in each sentence and the **noun or pronoun**. It will help you to remember what you need to memorize.
5. Circle the **first word** in the sentence. Sometimes we forget how it starts.
6. **Repetition** is the key to memorizing. There are no shortcuts unless you have a photographic memory!
7. If you are stuck remembering a word, circle it and hear yourself saying it over and over.
8. **Walk** while you memorize, it keeps your brain more active.

MORE TIPS:

1. Have someone run lines with you to fill in when you can't remember.
2. Practice EVERYDAY. Put the monologue in your pocket or backpack and pull it out and work on a section.
3. Go over the areas that are weak, usually the last part is not always as strong as the first.
4. And most of all HAVE FUN!
5. In the drama camp you will be learning how to add expression, body language and even some movement to bring to life the monologue you have chosen.

Know your lines as well as you know the ABC's. This takes work but I know you can do it!! Have fun.