

Monologue

A monologue is a dramatic speech by a single actor.

The character saying a monologue is directing their words to someone—whether it be the audience, another character onstage or offstage, or to themselves, but only the actor speaks.

You can write a monologue with yourself as the main character, or as someone else.

Practice run to write a monologue as yourself:

1. Think of a time, preferably in the recent past, when you were mad, irritated, annoyed, or frustrated about something. Who would you want to talk to about this problem you were having? That person will be the audience of your monologue.
2. Think about how you would talk to this person. You talk differently to your parents, your friends, even your pets.
3. Create an outline of your monologue

Example

Name: Jane

What I am mad about: My brother ate the last cookie last night.

My Audience: My brother Sam

Beginning: I am going to tell Sam that I am mad at him and see if he can guess what I am talking about. I will get frustrated when he doesn't answer.

Middle: I am going to tell him that it was about the cookie and that it really hurts my feelings that he doesn't think about me before he does stuff like that.

End: I am going to tell him that he can't come to my birthday party.

4. Write the Monologue
From the information you compiled in your outline, write a monologue.

Practice run to write a monologue as someone else:

1. Think of one of your favorite characters from a book, movie, play, TV show, or someone you may know and admire. You need to think about what makes that character who he or she is. Make a list of observations about that character's physical appearance (how they look, how they move, what they wear), personality (what are their hobbies, who are their friends, what are their goals), and background (where did they come from, what is their family like).
2. Draw & colour your character OR create a mind map showing the likes, dislikes, hopes, and fears of your character.
3. Write a monologue as if you were this character

Monologue

Oh, it was fine. Yeah, fine. Nothing is ever really new at school. I got a 90% on my science test. (pause) Well, actually, I need to tell you something and please promise you won't get mad. I have been having a real hard time in math. I just don't get it. And I, uh, haven't turned my homework in for a long time. Miss Swanson sent home this note. She says she needs you to come into school and see her. I am really sorry. I really have been

Marks are awarded as follows: (see below)

1. Setting: skillful, creative description – **5 marks.**
2. Plot: interesting, creative, original ideas – **5 marks.**
3. Tone/mood (atmosphere): skillfully established – **5 marks.**
4. Dialogue: effective, excellent use of vocabulary – **5 marks**
5. Characters: well-rounded, believable, engaging personality – **5 marks.**
6. Structure/layout: correct formatting – **5 marks.**
7. Writing process: planning, drafting, refining, editing, proofreading, final draft – **5 marks.**
8. Language – punctuation, spelling and grammar – **5 marks**
9. **Performance** – Well prepared, attention-grabbing, clearly understood – **10 marks.**

Monologue

	5	4	3	2	1
Setting (implied or overt as suits the text type)	Skillful, creative description of setting	Good description of setting	Adequate description of setting	Some description of setting; lacks detail	Inappropriate or no description of setting
Plot development through mono/dialogue	Interesting, creative plot with effective mono/dialogue and excellent use of vocabulary	Plot is developed adequately; some originality and good use of vocabulary	Plot development is evident but basic	Plot is weak or unclear; purpose of mono/dialogue is not apparent. Weak vocabulary inhibits plot	No plot; writing is random. No thread in mono/dialogue (illogical)
Tone or mood (atmosphere)	Skillfully establishes tone or mood	Tone and mood established and consistent	Establishes tone or mood adequately	Tone or mood is not firmly established	Mood or tone is not established, or is not clear
Characters (development of characters through mono/dialogue)	Well-rounded, believable characters with engaging personality	Characters are well developed; well-formed personality emerges	Characters adequately developed; consistent development	Characters are one-dimensional; inconsistently described	Characters not or very poorly developed
Formatting conventions and associated vocabulary	Uses the correct formatting with no mistakes	Correct formatting with only one or two mistakes	One or two errors in formatting; minor language errors	Significant errors in formatting and/or language	Many mistakes with formatting; or has not used correct format
Use of the writing process: Plans, drafts and refines the text, edits first draft and proofreads final draft	Excellent use of the writing process has produced a refined final draft. Proof reading has eliminated mistakes	Good use of writing process; evidence of progressive improvement in writing piece, mistakes still evident	Has used the writing process but has not translated it into a well-developed piece of writing	Some use of parts of writing process (very basic planning or evidence of editing of first draft) but many errors still remain	Little or no proof reading or editing done: writing still has many uncorrected errors
Language use: punctuation, grammar and spelling	Excellent use of language; correct sentences, punctuation and spelling. No errors in subject-verb concord	Creative use of language; mostly correct sentences, punctuation and few spelling errors. One or two errors in subject-verb concord	Most sentences are correct; some errors in language use, punctuation and spelling. Several errors in subject-verb concord	Sentence structure fair but very basic; several errors in language use, punctuation and spelling. Has not grasped subject-verb concord	Poor sentence structure; many errors in punctuation and spelling. Many errors in subject-verb concord; understanding compromised