



Monologue Knowledge Organiser



What? (Definition)

Monologue:

A monologue is a **long speech** delivered by **one character** in a play or film. The character speaks directly to the audience, to another character (who remains silent), or to themselves, revealing their **thoughts, feelings, or telling a story**.

Why? (Purpose)

Monologues serve several important purposes in drama:

- **To Reveal Character:** Monologues allow the audience to delve deep into a character's inner world, understanding their motivations, beliefs, fears, and desires.
- **To Advance the Plot:** A character's monologue might reveal crucial information, explain past events, or a plan to move forward.
- **To Express Emotion:** They are powerful tools for a character to express intense emotions.
- **To Provide Subtext:** Sometimes what a character says in a monologue hints at deeper, unspoken meanings or conflicts, adding layers to their personality or the story.

How? (Making It Effective)

To make your monologue effective:

- **Understand Character's Motivation:** Know *why* your character is speaking and what they want to achieve.
- **Show Emotion & Vary Delivery:** Use your voice and body to express feelings, changing your pace and tone to keep the audience engaged.
- **Use the Space & Practise:** Consider movement and eye-line. Know your lines perfectly so you can focus on performance and authenticity.
- **Make Clear Choices:** Decide precisely what your character's attitude, action, and reaction are at different points.

