

Worksheet 2: Internal Monologue

A mask performer ‘speaks’ to an audience through their use of physicality - gesture, movement, body language, stance, and proxemics. They never speak out loud but the audience must still understand the ‘dialogue’ they are communicating. They speak the ‘lines’ silently to themselves, which means that even though they don’t speak in performance, a script is still written when devising the performance.

Internal Monologue – The Script

Write a monologue (a speech spoken by a single character on stage) using the title ‘Looking Good’. It should be about a young person getting ready to go out for a special evening with friends and wanting to look their best.

When you have written your monologue, try performing it. You will not have an audience at this stage but that’s fine - this is the development of ideas rather than final performance.

Now, try performing it again except this time only ‘speak’ the words in your own head— so that to an audience it would look like you were performing without words.

You have just been through the process of writing and performing an internal monologue.



Internal Dialogue – The Script

Now go through the same process again, except this time, write a duologue, a scene performed between two characters on stage.

Use the title ‘Coming Together’. It should be about two friends who meet for the first time in years and have to get to know each other all over again. (But perhaps this doesn’t prove as easy as they would like it to be!)

Work with a friend and try performing your duologue speaking the words out loud.

Now try performing it with one of the characters only using the script as internal lines, not speaking them out loud.

Now try performing it with both of the characters using the script as internal lines, neither speaking them out loud.

Get together with a friend or friends on FaceTime/Skype or any other way you connect, and perform your internal monologue to each other. Give each other feedback and see if you want to change or develop anything in your writing.

Here’s an idea