

February 2021

Creative English

A black microphone on a stand is positioned on a red carpeted stage. A black bag is lying on the carpet to the right of the microphone. The background is a dark, textured wall.

Lesson One: What is a monologue?

LO: To determine the ingredients of an effective dramatic monologue

What is a monologue?

A **monologue** is a speech delivered by one person, who exposes inner thoughts and provides insights into his or her character.

The character/person speaks out their thoughts about a specific event or situation and tells us how they are feeling at that particular time.

Monologues are always written in first person (I think/I feel).



The Greek root word **monologos** translates to “speaking alone,” and that's a **monologue**: one person doing all the talking.

LO: To determine the ingredients of an effective dramatic monologue

What do you notice about how this character is speaking?



- Click on Syndrome to watch him speak in a series of monologues to Mr. Incredible
- Listen for:
 - his attitude (tone)
 - his use of long and short sentences
 - Listen for punctuation.
(! ? ... --)

Syndrome's Monologue



WHO is he speaking to?

WHAT is it that he wants?

What is he **FEELING** at this point?

See? Now you respect me, because I'm a threat. That's the way it works. Turns out, there are a lot of people, whole countries, who want respect, and they will pay through the nose to get it. How do you think I got rich? I invented weapons, and now I have a weapon that only I can defeat, and when I unleash it, I'll get... You sly dog! You got me monologuing! I can't believe it. It's cool, huh? Zero-point energy. I save the best inventions for myself. Am I good enough now? Who's super now? I'm Syndrome, your nemesis and...Oh, brilliant.

LO: To determine the ingredients of an effective dramatic monologue

Syndrome's Monologue

Underline a question.

Circle the punctuation that tells you his stream-of-thought has been interrupted.

Highlight a sentence that tells you he is feeling vengeful.*

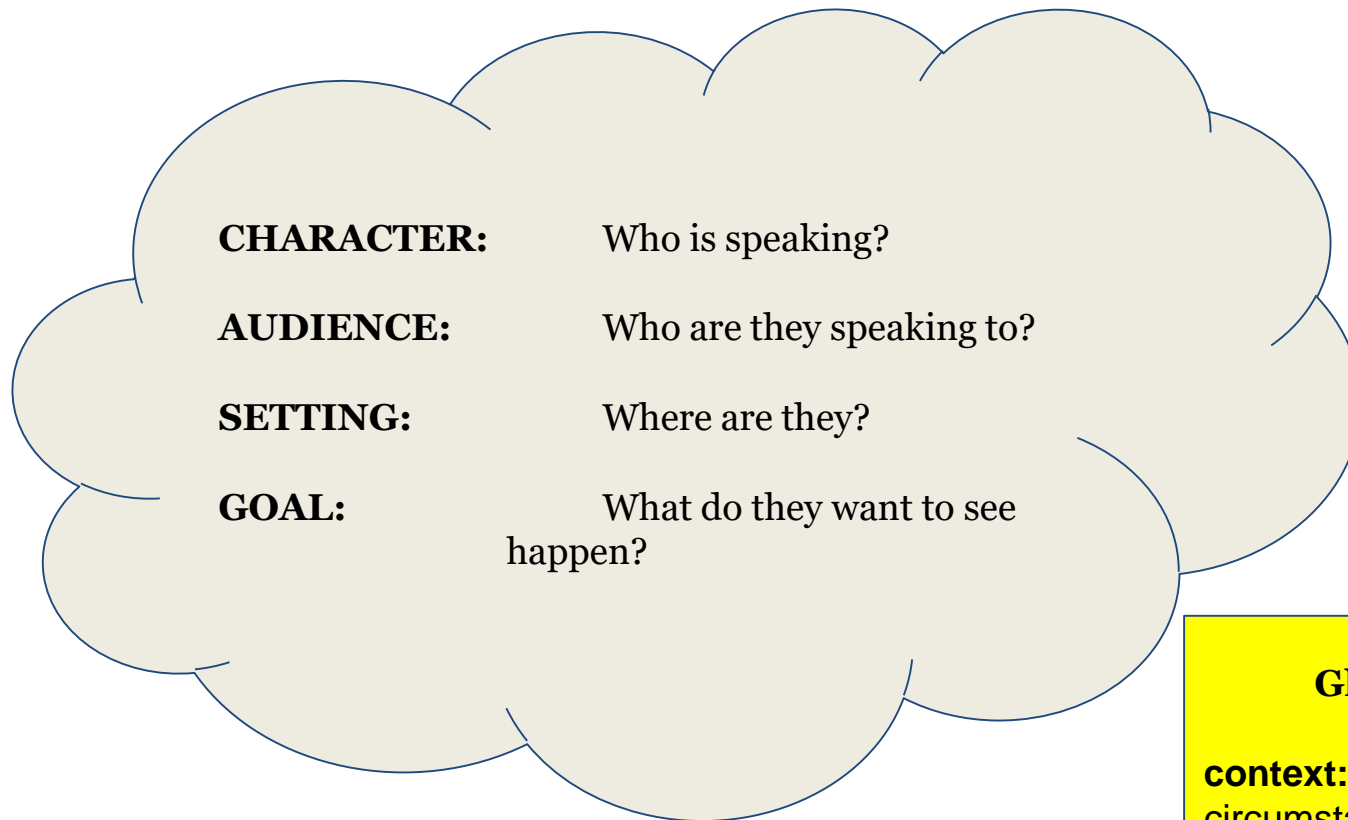
*vengeful=seeking revenge and/or to harm someone because of a past injury

See? Now you respect me, because I'm a threat. That's the way it works. Turns out, there are a lot of people, whole countries, who want respect, and they will pay through the nose to get it. How do you think I got rich? I invented weapons, and now I have a weapon that only I can defeat, and when I unleash it, I'll get... You sly dog! You got me monologuing! I can't believe it. It's cool, huh? Zero-point energy. I save the best inventions for myself. Am I good enough now? Who's super now? I'm Syndrome, your nemesis and...Oh, brilliant.

LO: To determine the ingredients of an effective dramatic monologue

But wait...

The best way to understand a monologue is to determine its **CONTEXT**. This will help us understand what they are saying and why.



Glossary

context: the circumstances surrounding a situation (the facts)

LO: To determine the ingredients of an effective dramatic monologue