

Close Reading: Poems





What you will be reading today is a monologue.

MONO is one of our Rock'n Root Words. Think of other words that end with the suffix -logue.

What is a MONOLOGUE?



What you will be reading today is a monologue. A monologue is what the character Jacques says in the Shakespeare play, "As You Like It." Since many use this as a stand alone piece of work they call it a **soliloquy** instead of a poem. A soliloquy means: speech or monologue

Soliloquy vs Poem

“All the World’s a Stage” by William Shakespeare



Close Reading Refresher



- What does the text *say*?
 - Look for *key ideas* and *details*
- *How* did the text say it?
 - Look at the *vocabulary terms*, *point of view*, *text structure*, *language*, etc.
- What does the text *mean*?
 - Look for *theme*, *make inferences*, *make connections* to other texts.

1st Reading

- Read **silently** to yourself
- After you are finished reading, I want you to underline the **key ideas** and **details**.
- Even if you do **NOT** understand the poem; I want to see an attempt.
- On the back of your poem put a #1 and answer the following question:
 - 1. In your own words, what is one key idea of the soliloquy and at least 1 detail that goes along with it?**



2nd Reading



- <https://youtu.be/x5hcaYEcAp0>.
- During the reading I want you to concentrate on how Shakespeare delivers his ideas
 - Look at the *rhythms* and meanings of Shakespeare's *language*
- Circle unfamiliar words in the text
- On the back of the poem write #2 and answer the following question:
How does the language used by Shakespeare connect to the key ideas and details from the first reading?

Word	Definition
Woeful ballad	Sad; song that tells a story
Pard	leopard
Capon	Chicken-like fowl
Saws and modern instances	Proverbs; the latest news or thing
Pantaloon	$\frac{3}{4}$ length pants
Hose	Stockings worn by fashionable men with pantaloons
Shank	Calf of leg
Oblivion	Total forgetfulness
Sans	(French) without

RoundRobin

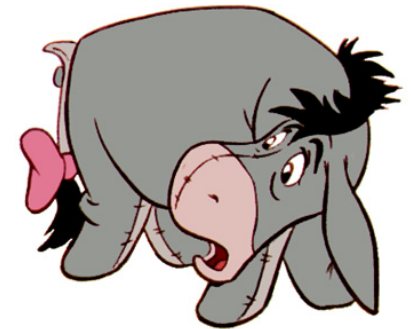


- Please discuss in your team what you think the poem is about.
- Once you reach a consensus on what you think it is about, please be sure to have an explanation.
- Be prepared to share your response with the class.

Let's get some background!



- This is one of the most famous quotes in Shakespeare. We hear it all the time, everywhere, often in terrible impressions of British accents. But do we actually know what it means?
- This quote (monologue, soliloquy) comes to us from *As You Like It*. More specifically, it's from a scene in which a character called Jaques is talking to some pals he comes across in the forest about the meaning of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Or something like that.
- Jaques is a pretty depressing guy. If the Forest of Arden had an Eeyore, he'd be it. But he doesn't just stop at the whole "thanks for noticing me" routine. Oh no. He purposely seeks out experiences that are depressing, just so he can mope at the top of his lungs. And just about *everything* depresses this guy. We're not kidding.



Text Based Questions

Answer in complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper and then staple to your poem.

1. What is the metaphor Shakespeare is making in the poem?
2. Highlight 2 pieces of textual evidence that allows you to understand the metaphor.
3. In line 2, what is the effect of the word merely?
4. A transition is a movement from one idea to the next. What is the first transition you can find in the soliloquy?

Text Based Questions Cont.

5. According to Shakespeare, what are the seven ages of man?
6. What words does Shakespeare choose to emphasize the transition between the judge and the aging man? Highlight these words/phrases with your highlighter.
7. Now, what do you think this soliloquy is about?

- Think about your response to Free Write #15. Perhaps your response was because you felt ... guilty?
- Guilty. You know it's true sometimes. Lots of times when someone asks us how we are doing, we just say "good" as a reflex, even if we really feel like screaming into a pillow. Why? Because we don't want to share our *real* selves with any old Joe on the street. Sure, we can be real with our friends and families, but sometimes we pretend to be happy or sad if we think that's what we're supposed to do in a certain situation.
- And that's exactly what Jaques is getting at, isn't it? He's talking about how we all act, even if we don't call ourselves actors.

After all, all the world's a stage.

