

**TRINITY DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS**  
**ACTOR WRITTEN REQUIREMENTS**

The following information must be typed in 12pt. Times New Roman and turned in all together no later than **Sunday, March 24, 2019.**

- I. Background History of the Show
  - A. History of the Show
    - 1. Any workshop info
    - 2. History of All Musical Numbers (if Jukebox Musical)
      - a. Please include original artists, year it debuted, and album it is on.
  - B. Original Broadway Production Info
  - C. Original Broadway Cast
  - D. Original Broadway Production Team
  - E. Other Productions
  - F. Awards
  - G. Any Interesting Facts
- II. Synopsis of the Show
- III. Characters
- IV. Musical Numbers Your Character is in
  - A. Make sure to break down each song and what your character wants in each song.
  - B. Please use the Song Analysis Chart for each song. (1 for each song)
  - C. Circumstance Information Sheet (1 for each Song)
- V. Character Analysis
  - A. Please use the following sheets to help.
  - B. Take each scene and figure out where your character starts, where your character ends, and what your character wants for each scene
  - C. Final Character Arch (Where your character starts; what your character goes through (scene by scene); and where your character finally ends; what your character has learned.
- VI. What Others Say about You Character
  - A. Line/Lyrics in the script that you say about yourself
- VII. What You Say About Your Character
  - A. Line/Lyrics in the script that other characters say about your character

## CHARACTER ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

Play Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Actor \_\_\_\_\_ Character (s) \_\_\_\_\_

### **I. DRAMATIC ACTION for the play**

Remember that a character is determined ONLY AFTER his actions, not before. First, analyze the character's wants and desires. What is the character's THROUGH LINE OF ACTION for the entire play. Looking over the course of the script, what is the through line for each character?

#### **A. OBJECTIVE (Desire or Victory)**

This is a statement of what a character wants most; power, dominance over others, love for another, elf-integrity, dominance over fear, etc.

Answer these questions:

What do I really want? Why? When do I want it? Why?

#### **B. OBSTACLE (Other)**

This is the person or thing that is preventing him from getting what he wants. What or who is standing in his way? From whom (in the play) does he want it? Who in the play can help him? Who in the play can hurt him?

Answer these questions:

From whom (in the play) do I want it? Why? Who in the play can help me?

Why?

Who in the play can hurt me? Why? What are my deepest fears? Why?

#### **C. TACTIC (Will)**

This is a character's relative strength in attaining his wants or desires. How can he get what he wants? How (and whom) can he threaten? How (and whom) can he induce? How strong or weak is his inner strength? Is it strong enough to push him the full limit, or will he compromise? Does he have any sense of moral responsibility to others? How honest is he with others and with himself?

(a character's moral stance will affect the attainment of his wants and desires)

Answer these questions:

How can I get it? Why? How (and whom) can I threaten? Why? How (and whom) can I induce? Why?

#### **D. EXPECTATION (Resolution)**

Every character has 5 basic Human Needs. These, in one way or another, ultimately become what the character expects to get. What does the character expect in the end? Why does he expect to get it? Why does it excite him? What will he do when he gets it?

1) Winning 2) Survival 3) Validation 4) Love 5) Happiness

Answer these questions:

Why do I expect to get it? Why does it excite me? What will I do when I get it?

## **II. DRAMATIC ACTION (within a scene)**

1. What do others say about this character?
2. What does this character say about others?
3. What discoveries does this character make?
4. How does this information affect each character? Does it change their behavior, way of thinking, needs?
5. Does this information signal a victory? a defeat? a reason for reevaluation?
6. Character's objective, obstacle and tactic
7. What is the character's subtext
8. Character-mood-intensity upon entering the scene (this is the physical or body-state of the character)
  - \* heartbeat: rate
  - \* perspiration: heavy, light, etc.
  - \* stomach condition
  - \* muscle tension
  - \* breathing: rate, depth

## **III. CHARACTERIZATION**

### **A. Physical Qualities**

1. Who am I?
2. Who am I named after? Do I like my name?
3. What is my gender? What do I think about sex?
4. How old am I? What do I think of my age?
5. How does my posture express my age, health, inner feeling?
6. How is my complexion? What do I think of it?
7. What is my height? What do I think of I?
8. What is my weight? What do I think of it?
9. What is the pitch, volume, tempo, resonance or quality of my voice? What do I think of it?
10. Is my articulation careless or precise? Is my articulation standard or colloquial? Do I have a dialect or accent?
11. What is my hair color and style? Do I like it?
12. Do I have any deformities? What do I think of them?
13. Do I have any mannerisms? What do I think of them?
14. Do I have any handicaps? What do I think of them?
15. How energetic or vital am I? Do I like it?
16. Do I suffer from any diseases past or present?
17. Are my gestures complete or incomplete, vigorous or weak, compulsive or controlled?
18. Do I like my walk?
19. How do I usually sit?
20. How do I usually stand?
21. Do I have any objects, hand props or accessories with me? Why? How do I handle them?
22. Are my basic rhythms smooth or jerky, even-tempered or volatile, impulsive or deliberate, ponderous or light, broken or continuous?
23. What do I like to wear? What do I have to wear? How do I wear my clothes? How do I handle them?

## **B. Social Qualities**

1. What do I do when I wake up each morning?
2. What is my relationship to my environment? Do I like it?
3. What is my educational background? How much discipline was I subjected to? How intelligent am I?
4. What was my childhood like? What are my strongest memories?
5. How much money do I have? How much do I want?
6. What is my nationality? What do I think of it?
7. What is my occupation? Do I like it? What other jobs have I had? When and why did I choose this one?
8. What are my political attitudes?
9. Am I religious?
10. Whom would I choose to be if I could be anyone else?
11. Did I have childhood heroes? What did I like about them?
12. Do I like members of the opposite sex? What do I like about them?
13. Who were my parents? What do I like and/or dislike about them?
14. Do I like my family? What do I like? What do I dislike?
15. How has my mother influenced me? How has my father influenced me?
16. Do I have brothers and sisters? What do I think about them?
17. What was my favorite fairy tale? Why?
18. Who are my friends? Who are my enemies? How can I tell if someone is a friend or an enemy?
19. What ideas do I like? What ideas do I dislike?
20. What hobbies or interests do I have?
21. Do I have children? Do I like them? Why? Do they like me?
22. What advice do I have for my children?
23. Am I married? Why did I marry the person I did?
24. What do I think about my spouse? What do I dislike?
25. How do my physical traits affect each of the social traits?
26. How do the social traits affect the script and my objective?
27. How do the social traits affect my life needs and wants?

## **D. Psychological Qualities**

1. What choices do I face?
2. What choices do I make?
3. What makes me angry? What relaxes me?
4. What are my driving ambitions, my goals?
5. Do I have any instincts?
6. Do I do things impulsively?
7. What do I worry about?
8. What do I want? What do others think I want?
9. What do I like about myself? Dislike about myself?
10. What do I need?
11. What do I fear?
12. Why can't I get what I want?
13. Do other people like me? Why?

14. Are any of my psychological traits manifested physically?
15. Are any of my psychological traits manifested vocally?

### **E. Moral Qualities**

1. Are the choices I will make based upon expediency of some ethical standard?
2. Who do I admire?
3. Will the pursuit of my needs lead to a moral choice?
4. What is my attitude toward the choice I make?
5. How do I express this attitude vocally and physically?

### **F. Play Qualities**

1. Why am I included in the play? How do I contribute to the overall idea the playwright wishes to express?
2. What similes, metaphors, or personifications are used to describe me?
3. How and why are these figures of speech related to my physical, social, psychological, and moral traits.
4. Why do I make each of my stage entrances? What do I want each time? What am I thinking about at each stage entrance?
5. Where have I been prior to each of my stage entrances? How does this affect my actions verbally and physically? What would I like to see or do when I enter?
6. How does the locale of the play make me feel?
7. How does the time of the play make me feel?
8. How does the period of the play affect my actions?

## **IV. PREVIOUS ACTION**

This is specific information from the script, which details the events and action which occurred prior to the play beginning. Note specifically YOUR CHARACTER'S previous action. It is not necessary to know others' previous action.