

Audition Monologues from You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown

Overview- The whole gang is here: bossy Lucy is hopelessly in love with piano prodigy Schroeder who doesn't give her the time of day, perfectionist Sally is still mocking blanket-toting Linus, Snoopy is in the doghouse, and "blockhead," himself, Charlie Brown, is in rare form. Brief vignettes span the months from Valentine's Day to Beethoven Day, from wild optimism to utter despair.

Note: There are more characters in the show than the monologues below represent. Besides acting auditions, you will be taught a song from the show and asked to sing.

Research characters from the ORIGINAL comic strip or cartoons (not the Broadway show)

PLEASE CHOOSE ONE MONOLOGUE TO LEARN (memorization is highly encouraged) AND BE FAMILIAR WITH THE OTHERS

Charlie Brown is either self-defeating stubbornness or admirable determined persistence to try his best against all odds. He is a lovable guy who is dominated by insecurities, Charlie Brown is often ridiculed and taken advantage of by his peers resulting in constant usage of his two favorite words, "Good Grief " He can never win a ballgame but continues playing baseball; he can never fly a kite successfully but continues trying to do so. The show is a day in the life of Charlie Brown.

Lucy Van Pelt has the persona of a bossy, crabby, manipulative and selfish girl who thrives on telling everyone something... grumpy. She shows a need for assurance from either Schroeder or Charlie Brown that she is indeed pretty.

Snoopy is the pet beagle of Charlie Brown who owns and cares for him. He is more human than dog. His character is that of a canine who pretends to be a person (or who sometimes forgets he is a dog). Snoopy is loyal, funny, imaginative and good-natured. He is also a genuinely happy dog. A running gag within the strip is that he does a "happy dance", which annoys Lucy because she believes that nobody can ever be that happy. However, Snoopy just thinks Lucy is jealous because she is not capable of being as happy as he is.

Schroeder is distinguished by his precocious skill at playing the toy piano, as well as by his love of classical music and the composer Ludwig van Beethoven in particular. Despite only playing on a toy piano, Schroeder is a very talented musician. Since Beethoven is Schroeder's "hero", he wants to be like Beethoven who was a lifelong bachelor. Schroeder thinks he should be the same, rejecting Lucy's love interest in him. Aside from Snoopy and Linus, Schroeder is Charlie Brown's closest friend.

Linus Van Pelt is unusually smart and he acts as the show's philosopher. He Lucy's brother. Linus always means well and tries to smooth over any storms that arise amongst the gang. A

source of frustration for him is Lucy, who always belittles him, particularly over his security blanket. He is Charlie Brown's best friend.

Sally Brown is the little sister of Charlie Brown. On one hand, she is good-hearted, sweet, and innocent. However, on the other, she can be lazy, ignorant, naive, slow, obsessive, insecure, and sometimes even self-centered and manipulative. Sally has a "take it easy" approach to life, preferring to slide by while doing as little work as possible. Her favorite pastime is sitting in her beanbag chair watching TV.

Peppermint Patty has the persistent habit of profoundly misunderstanding basic concepts and ideas that most people would consider obvious, then blindly ignoring any counsel against her latest fixation, which leads to ultimately embarrassing situations for which she blames everyone who warned her. For a long time she seemed unaware that Snoopy was a dog. She is a tomboy.

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Charlie Brown:

There's that cute little red-headed girl eating her lunch over there. I wonder what she would do if I went over and asked her if I could sit and have lunch with her?...She'd probably laugh right in my face...it's hard on a face when it gets laughed in. There's an empty place next to her on the bench. There's no reason why I couldn't just go over and sit there. All I have to do is stand up...I'm standing up ...I'm sitting down. I'm a coward. I'm so much of a coward, she wouldn't even think of looking at me. She hardly ever does look at me. In fact, I can't remember her ever looking at me. Why shouldn't she look at me? Is there any reason in the world why she shouldn't look at me? Is she so great, and I'm so small, that she can't spare one little moment?...SHE'S LOOKING AT ME SHE'S LOOKING AT ME (he puts his lunch bag over his head.)

"Coat Hanger Sculpture"

Sally: A 'C'? A 'C'? I got a 'C' on my coat hanger sculpture? How could anyone get a 'C' in coat hanger sculpture? May I ask a question? Was I judged on the piece of sculpture itself? If so, is it not true that time alone can judge a work of art? Or was I judged on my talent? If so, is it fair that I be judged on a part of my life over which I have no control? If I was judged on my effort, then I was judged unfairly, for I tried as hard as I could Was I judged on what I had learned about this project? If so, then were not you, my teacher, also being judged on your ability to transmit your knowledge to me? Are you willing to share my 'C'? Perhaps I was being judged on the quality of coat hanger itself out of which my creation was made...now is this not also unfair? Am I to be judged by the quality of coat hangers that are used by the dry cleaning establishment that returns our garments? Is that not the responsibility of my parents? Should they not share my 'C'? (SFX: the teachers voice is heard offstage [brief unintelligible squawk voice mixed with electronic static) Thank you, Miss Othmar. (to audience) The squeaky wheel gets the grease (exits)

The Red Baron

Snoopy: (on top of doghouse, speaking over music) Here's the World One I flying ace high over France in his Sopwith Camel, searching for the infamous Red Baron I must bring him down Suddenly, anti-aircraft fire, 'archie' we used to called it, begins to burst beneath my plane. The Red Baron has spotted me. Nyahh, Nyahh, Nyahh You can't hit me (aside) Actually, tough flying aces never say 'Nyahh, Nyahh, Nyahh'. I just, ah...Drat this fog It's bad enough having to fight the Red Baron without having to fly in weather like this All right, Red Baron Where are you? You can't hide forever Ah, the sun has broken through...I can see the woods of Montsec below...and what's that? It's a Fokker triplane Ha I've got you this time, Red Baron

"Crabby"

Schroeder: I'm sorry to have to say it to your face, Lucy, but it's true. You're a very crabby person. I know your crabbiness has probably become so natural to you now that you're not even aware when you're being crabby, but it's true just the same. You're a very crabby person and you're crabby to just about everyone you meet. Now I hope you don't mind my saying this, Lucy, and I hope you're take it in the spirit that it's meant. I think we should be very open to any opportunity to learn more about ourselves. I think Socrates was very right when he said that one of the first rules for anyone in life is 'Know Thyself'. Well, I guess I've said about enough. I hope I haven't offended you or anything. (awkward exit)

Lucy: Do you know what I intend? I intend to be a queen. When I grow up I'm going to be the biggest queen there ever was, and I'll live in a big palace and when I go out in my coach, all the people will wave and I will shout at them, and...and...in the summertime I will go to my summer palace and I'll wear my crown in swimming and everything, and all the people will cheer and I will shout at them... What do you mean I can't be queen? Nobody should be kept from being a queen if she wants to be one. It's usually just a matter of knowing the right people.. ..well.... if I can't be a queen, then I'll be very rich then I will buy myself a queendom. Yes, I will buy myself a queendom and then I'll kick out the old queen and take over the whole operation myself. I will be head queen.

Peppermint Patty: You know what I don't understand, Chuck? I don't understand love. Explain love to me Chuck. You can't explain love, Chuck what do you mean "if you happen to see this cute little girl walk by"? Why does she have to be cute? Can't someone fall in love with a girl who isn't cute, and has freckles and a big nose? Explain that, Chuck I didn't say a great big nose. So, Chuck, do you think you'll ever get married? Well, what kind of girl do you think you'll marry? What do you mean she'd be the kind of girl who would call you "Poor Sweet Baby?" You're very strange.