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# GIRLS RULE!

**Fifteen one- and two-minute  
monologue characterizations**

**by Lynne Elson**

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1. Like, So Ready for High School
2. W-O-M-A-N
3. Too Normal
4. Baby-sitting Blues
5. Camping for Love
6. Grounded
7. My Lab Partner
8. To Love or Not to Love
9. Dance of the Wild Animals
10. Life Skills Class
11. Stolen Glorie
12. Giggles
13. Birthday Wishes
14. Distressed
15. The Egg Drop



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## Introduction

The two-minute monologue is a basic tool of the acting profession. It is used for auditions, competitions, and performing in variety shows, or whatever opportunity arises. Whether you plan to be a professional actor or whether you are simply using acting as a way of expressing your creativity in school, you need to conquer the form of the two-minute monologue. If you are at all serious about performing, you should develop a repertoire of two-minute monologues on a variety of subjects.

The monologues in this collection cover a variety of subjects. They are tough and timely, funny and real. You should be able to find monologues in this collection that you identify with strongly and believe in. Those are the keys to performing a monologue: make it about you and feel about the story the monologue has to tell as strongly as you feel about the real and exciting moments of your own life.

## Some Tips for Performing a Monologue

- Perform the monologue as though it actually happened to you. Make it your personal story.
- Know more about the events in the monologue than the monologue reveals. Make up a whole story around it.
- Be excited about the monologue.
- Tell the story as though it is happening in the present.
- Find the most exciting moment in the monologue and start your performance at that level of excitement. Then go beyond that level.
- Don't ever allow a character to be self-pitying. *Make the character full of grit and toughness.*
- All monologues have a chance for humor. Find the humor and go for it.
- Your performance should have a lot of mood changes. Watch that you do not feel or sound the same all the way through. Your voice should change. Your movements should change. Your emotions should change.
- Move as you perform the monologue. Walk around. Sit on the floor. Stand on a chair if you can make it work.
- Never be casual about how the listener is receiving the monologue.
- *Remember:* When performing, you are never being cool. You are excited about the story and character you have to communicate.
- *Acting is about strong emotion. You must find the way to tap that source in yourself, tap it instantly and share it!* When you perform a monologue, you are out there to go further in the world than you've ever gone before!

## Comedic Monologues

### 1. Like, So Ready for High School

*(DANI, fifteen, is getting dressed and brushing her hair for her first day of high school. She has a pair of designer boots nearby.)*

DANI: Dude, I'm like, so ready for high school. I'm gonna straighten my hair and wear my new Mac gloss. And I'm dying to wear my new Uggs. They're mad cool. But I'm not sure they go with my new "first day" outfit. What do you think? I'm gonna look like, so hot. But listen to this. I almost had nothing to wear today. I tried on for Sarah yesterday and she like, screamed. I said, "What?" She said, "*O-m-g*." I said, "What?" She said, "You didn't." And I'm like, "What are you spazzing about?" She looked down and said, "You're gonna kill me." Then I knew it. And I screamed. My mom came upstairs screaming too, but not the same kind of scream. She was like, "You guys on fire or something?" I said, "No, but it is a nine-one-one-fashion emergency. Sarah's planning on wearing the same thing as me tomorrow for the first day."

Mom was like, "So why don't you wear the shirt and jeans, and she'll wear the skirt and a different top?" I know, she's like from another planet, I swear. "Mom, you don't understand. Everyone checks out everyone and you know right away who's gonna hang with who, and the lunch table you sit at for the rest of the year is decided. I mean, first day is like only the most important day of the whole year."

There were only a couple hours left of shopping time. Mom brought us to the mall and we went straight to the cool stores. Sarah ended up with a new Abercrombie sweatshirt, which was pretty cool and casual, and we both decided the blue-green was like, perfect for her eyes. And me, I couldn't find anything and the stores were closing, so we panicked, you know. And Sarah, she said, "Dani, your butt looks awesome in that skirt, you should like, totally wear it for first day." I got tears in my eyes, I

1 swear. She's like the best, isn't she? I mean, really. So  
2 what would you do? I mean, she said she wanted me to.  
3 So like, I wear it, right? Now the next problem to solve.  
4 What do you think? Are the Uggs too much?  
5  
6

## 7 2. W-O-M-A-N

8  
9 (*LARA, fifteen, announces her womanhood proudly.*)

10 LARA: I am a woman. W-o-m-a-n. Why don't you women stand  
11 up with me? Are you afraid? Mr. Vargas just asked us if  
12 we considered ourselves a girl or a woman. And I was the  
13 only one, the only one out of seventeen girls, that had the  
14 guts to say woman. I'm definitely not a girl. I don't wear  
15 baby doll pink dresses, or play Barbies, or sell lemonade  
16 for ten cents anymore. I have a job. I've marched on  
17 Washington protesting violence against women of the  
18 world. I shave my armpits! I most definitely am a woman!  
19 (*Pause*)

20 But don't tell my grandma, because I like when she  
21 combs my hair and slips me five dollars in my coat pocket  
22 when she thinks I'm not looking. When she comes over  
23 she teaches me how to bake cookies, even though I've  
24 known for years how to do it, I pretend to need her help.  
25 OK, for her, I'll still be a little girl.  
26  
27

## 28 3. Too Normal

29  
30 (*KIM, fourteen, is confronting her parents with a topic that is very*  
31 *hard for her to talk about. She uses note cards to remember what*  
32 *to say.*)

33 KIM: Hello, parental figures, I would like to discuss  
34 something with you. Would you like to sit down? Mom,  
35 don't cry, it's not something that dreadful. I just have to  
36 enlighten you about something that has been plaguing  
37 me (*Glances at note cards and takes a deep breath.*)

38 I don't fit in at school. I go to school, make straight As

1 and everything, but I don't fit in. I'm sorry, Mom and Dad,  
2 but I'm just too normal. Look at me, I'm average height,  
3 average weight, my hair is up in a ponytail every day. I  
4 use no makeup, eat a normal brown-bagged lunch every  
5 day, and I have nothing to complain about at school. You  
6 guys aren't divorced, nobody is hurting, manipulating, or  
7 forcing anyone to do anything in this house. It's so  
8 normal that it's abnormal. Everybody at school has  
9 something to complain about. So this is my plan. (*Takes*  
10 *out a wig and black clothes.*) I'm going to change my look.  
11 I've decided that I'm going to wear makeup and tell  
12 everyone that I'm going through some rough times. I  
13 don't know what kind, but I'll stay quiet about that and  
14 it'll add to the mystery. What do you think? Go ahead, yell  
15 at me — that's exactly what I want you to do. Send me to  
16 my room without dinner. Or take away my Internet for a  
17 month. Why not? I'll go to the library and do my research.  
18 They still have libraries with books, don't they? And  
19 maybe I won't do my research. I'll, I'll just make up my  
20 facts and I'll probably still get a B! Won't that be exciting?  
21 It'll *be* different tomorrow. I'm going to go start  
22 practicing my sad pout face so everyone will know I'm  
23 going through something. OK, thanks. I knew you'd  
24 understand.

#### 25 26 27 4. Baby-sitting Blues

28  
29 (*CLARISSA, sixteen, talks to the toddler she is babysitting. She*  
30 *is trying to put the toddler to bed.*)

31 **CLARISSA:** OK, one more time. (*Singing and doing hand*  
32 *movements*) Five little monkeys jumping on the bed, one  
33 fell off and bumped his head, Momma called the doctor  
34 and the doctor said ... (*Getting aggravated*) No, no you don't  
35 jump on the bed, the monkeys do. No, you can't have  
36 dessert. You already had ice cream and cookies and an  
37 ice pop. You have to go to bed now. No, I don't think I'm  
38 being mean. Your mother asked me to put you to bed at



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