How To Prepare A Monologue

1. Choose a monologue that you like! It should be about 1 minute long, be one that you can memorize, and one that you want to work on. Make sure it’s school appropriate, and try to match it with the style of show, if possible (ex. Comedy or drama)
2. Print it out, double spaced (so you can write notes)
3. Break it up into sections. These sections don’t have to be even in length – try to find the places where the character changes (ex. Realizes something new, changes emotion, discovers something)
4. Write notes in the spaces about **a)** what the character wants to achieve by the end of the monologue [the **OBJECTIVE**] and **b)** how they are feeling. These feelings should change throughout, possibly with each new sentence.
5. Memorize it. Learn it in the sections you divided. Write it out, have someone help, or cover lines with your hand and repeat it until your brain knows it without looking
6. Think about and practice your performance of the monologue: What are your hands doing? Your facial expressions? Are you sitting? Standing? Do you pace at one point in the middle? Jump up at the end with a new idea? Get louder or quieter at certain moments? Think about how your character **changes** from beginning to end, and show that in your whole body, face, and voice
7. Practice, practice, practice. Show your family, friends, pets, whoever! Get useful feedback about your volume and pronunciation to be sure you can be heard and understood. Careful not to go too fast! If your friend can’t understand you, neither will your audience
8. When it comes time for the audition itself, remember to take a breath and relax ☺ You will always have the opportunity to start over if you want to