

Exercise: Approaching Random Tasks in Character

Task Prompts:

(Use as a checklist or cut out prompts and put them in a hat or bag)

Eating ice cream	Fishing
Washing a car	Shoveling snow
Writing in a journal	Playing a video game
Changing a light bulb	Washing dishes
Taking photographs	Brushing/styling your hair
Taking a selfie	Programming a computer
Building a campfire	Digging a hole
Folding laundry	Shaving
Baking a cake	Trying on different outfits
Feeding a baby a bottle	Working on a craft project
Raking leaves	Fixing a broken item
Vacuuming the floor	Listening to loud music
Eating spaghetti	Grocery shopping
Making a bed	Packing a suitcase
Knitting	Petting a cat
Sunbathing	Walking a dog
Doing yoga	Driving a car
Painting a picture	Decorating for a party
Doing aerobics	Painting your fingernails
Lifting weights	Painting your toenails



Sample Scene

Use this scene for your students or choose your own scene.

We Are Masks by Lindsay Price

Full play at: theatrefolk.com

Foster is working hard to live up to parental expectations. Jess and Foster used to be friends, but aren't so much anymore.

FOSTER enters and tentatively approaches.

FOSTER: Hey, uh, Jess?

JESS: *(turning)* Oh hi.

FOSTER: I wanted to ask you about ... Uh, how did you do on the Chem test?

JESS: I passed.

FOSTER: *(sitting)* I'm never going to get it. I don't belong in the class.

JESS: And yet ... Top grade... you...

FOSTER: It's luck.

JESS: You know, it's super annoying the way you talk. Luck. You always get A's.

FOSTER: Not always.

JESS: You get more A's than me.

FOSTER: Well, I don't deserve them. I'm not as good as you think I am.

JESS: The only way that's possible is if you've been cheating on every single test this year. Have you ever cheated on a test?

FOSTER: No!

JESS: There you go.

FOSTER: I wouldn't even know how.



JESS: It's easy. The Trask Twins have an in at the school board. They can get any test you want.

FOSTER: Why do two twin teenagers have access to whatever test I want?

JESS: Don't ask questions.

FOSTER: Have you ever bought one? If it's so easy.

JESS: *(shaking head)* Too much Catholic guilt.

FOSTER: Right. *(thinking)* Right...

JESS: Foster.

FOSTER: I have to get more than an A on the next test. My parents... huh.

JESS: What did you want really want to talk to me about?

FOSTER: Huh?

JESS: When you first came in. You started to ask about something else.

FOSTER: Oh. I just wondered about the musical. *(with a sigh)* Auditions are this week right?

JESS: *(handing over the sheet music)* Learning my song now.

FOSTER: *(looking at the song)* This is good. It'll suit your voice.

JESS: Why don't you try out?

FOSTER: *(handing the music back)* I can't.

JESS: Then why'd you ask?

FOSTER: See you Jess.

JESS: You look miserable. Just sayin'.

FOSTER: Yeah.



Reflection

Reflect upon the following questions. (Length: one page)

- What was the easiest part of this exercise? The hardest? Why?
- What was one thing you learned while doing this exercise?
- How can this exercise make you a better actor?

Rubric

Approaching Random Tasks in Character	Below Average	Satisfactory	Proficient	Advanced
Engaged and focused.	1	2	4	5
Works well with partner.	1	2	4	5
Commits to and creates interesting movements/choices using their task prompt.	1	2	4	5
Reflection completed thoroughly and thoughtfully.	1	2	4	5

