

Please pick one of the following monologues to perform. We will be timing them, and we want them to be performed, fully acted, within 30 seconds. Please make sure you are emphasizing some words in your delivery; which ones will be up to you and your character choices. This is a very important part of your audition, so I would suggest memorizing your monologue and sincerely "performing" it as you would in a show. While you may recognize these from *Pirates of Penzance*, it is not required that you recite them in rhythm (although it may help get done in the time frame). If you don't finish in 30 seconds, it's not the end of the world. I'd rather have someone finish in 32 seconds with some amazing choices made than a bland 24 second speed-through.

I know our mythic history, King Arthur's and Sir Caradoc's;  
I answer hard acrostics, I've a pretty taste for paradox,  
I quote in elegiacs all the crimes of Heliogabalus,  
In conics I can floor peculiarities parabolous;  
I can tell undoubted Raphaels from Gerard Dows and Zoffanies,  
I know the croaking chorus from the Frogs of Aristophanes!  
Then I can hum a fugue of which I've heard the music's din afore,  
And whistle all the airs from that infernal nonsense Pinafore.

In fact, when I know what is meant by "mamelon" and "ravelin",  
When I can tell at sight a Mauser rifle from a javelin,  
When such affairs as sorties and surprises I'm more wary at,  
And when I know precisely what is meant by "commissariat",  
When I have learnt what progress has been made in modern gunnery,  
When I know more of tactics than a novice in a nunnery-  
In short, when I've a smattering of elemental strategy,  
You'll say a better Major-General has never sat a gee.