What is a monologue?

A monologue is generally a single person making a speech to reveal inner thoughts and/or intentions. Typically, a monologue occurs in a scene where the character is alone and is talking to nobody in particular apart from the audience/viewer. A soliloquy is a good example of a monologue. If the character is not alone in the scene, others will not respond to their monologue – this would make it dialogue.

Example:
Othello – Act 1, Scene 3
“I hate the moor” – Iago
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fItEfjh0oc

Network
“There is no democracy” – Finch
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UUhTWhSGNs

V for Vendetta
“My name is V...” – V (also one of the greatest examples of alliteration existing in film)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQyqx1K495U

Task:
You are to script and deliver a monologue from the persona of one of the main characters of The Shawshank Redemption. It cannot be a monologue that already exists in the film.

We also encourage you to try a monologue from a different perspective – don’t go straight for Andy or Red, try Warden Norton or one of the prison guards. Your monologue should:

- Present an idea of justice from the character’s point of view, based off your observations from the film. What do you think this character’s views on justice are? How do they view prison? This will be particularly interesting if taken from the Warden’s point of view.
- Present your monologue dramatically! Watch the examples provided by your teacher in class, but also take the opportunity to view the monologues provided from this sheet. What do they have in common? What do they utilise?
- Memorise your monologue! Nobody wants to watch you reading from your sheet – it ruins the affect of the monologue.
- Provide feedback to your peers on how you think their monologue went.
- Make sure your monologue is 4-6 minutes in length.
- Utilise dramatic pauses, facial expression, hand gestures, tone changes etc. We want this to be dramatic!
- Submit the next page to your teacher so that they know what character you are going to be doing!
Name: __________________________         Date: ________

Character: __________________________

I'm doing this character because...: __________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________