

SELF-TAPE FOCUS STUDY | An Activity

*This activity will not cover the script work portion (that is a separate course). This activity will focus on having a successful self-tape audition.

DIRECTIONS:

The absolute focus of this activity is for the purpose of having the most professional self-tape set up you can come up with, paying key attention to all concepts covered in this lesson's video lecture! *There is an included monologue you can utilize, but feel free to find your own sides, monologue, or prompt for this audition, as the focus is on the self-taping components!*

WHAT the Casting Call wants:

- You will be submitting the monologue attached as your self-tape audition (or other work)
- For this audition, the casting director prefers you to be off-book (i.e., the monologue is memorized), but will accept visually apparent scripts if necessary
- Please submit a self-tape audition using the attached sides
- Before your audition, please "slate" your name, the role you are auditioning for (make one up :)), and if you are represented by an agency or self-represented.

WHAT to Remember (SELF-TAPE FOCUS):

- FRAME: Try to get the tops of shoulders to the top of your head in this one.
- LIGHTING: Make sure your face is not darkened by shadows, and that the lighting does not cause any graininess in the footage. Try to make sure there are no harsh shadows from lighting being too close to the side of your face. Bouncing light off of a white sheet to reflect on the actors face, or pushing the light through a white sheet to diffuse the light rays is a tip for better lighting.
- BACKGROUND: Make sure your clothes do not blend into the background. Make sure your background is not distracting.
- SOUND: Pre-record a segment in the place you are considering for your self-tape, and listen to it. Is there background noise? Ensure your audio is good quality!
- Follow the directions of the casting call!
- Don't forget to "submit" your audition! Your "submission" will just be commenting your improvisation audition onto the "LESSON 6 | Self-Tape Auditions" topic, where you can receive peer-review!

THE AIRPORT | Comedic Monologue

Author & Credit: Emma Paunil (An Excerpt from unreleased book, *“Running Shadow: The Intuitive Accounts of an African Adventure”*)

Genre: Comedy

Description: A young woman (or young man) returning from a long journey across the wildlands of Namibia, Africa, finds herself in culture-shock when she steps back into the airport of the United States.

I found myself elated with the bubbly personalities and diverse nationalities of all those surrounding me on the international flights and amongst the airports. Time flew by so fast on the flights from Windhoek to Johannesburg, Johannesburg to Qatar, and even on my flight from Qatar to JFK. However, everything changed when I stepped foot into the JFK airport. The moment I left the plane and walked down that hall, it was like walking out into fifteen lanes of traffic. Everyone followed one another in lines, either matching the speed of the random person in front of them, or grumbling about the elderly person walking too slow in front of them, and then passing them 90 miles an hour. I was surrounded by scowling faces, angry at the existence of every person, airplane, child, suitcase, water bottle... I can't even list how many things they could have been mad at. Most of the traffic was caused by those citizens burying their noses in their phones as they moved behind the next person in the far right lane going the pace of the person in front of them looking into a phone. I stepped out of a portal of love, joy, comradery, and into an expanse of fast-paced, anxiety and anger. I had one more flight. *One more flight*. This was the first time in the 20 hours of flying thus far that I thought to myself, "Don't worry, I have one more flight."