

RADA

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Self-tape guidance 2021 entry

Please make sure you clearly understand the following guidance and instructions and prepare what is required before you start to record anything.

1. Recording format

You can record your audition pieces using your mobile phone. You are not required to submit a professional recording, as long as **you can be heard and seen clearly**.

Important:

If you are using your phone to record, please ensure that the camera is not on 'High Efficiency' mode. You should be able to check this in your phone's camera settings. For iPhone, you will need to switch on 'Most Compatible' mode.

Set up your phone or camera, either using a stand or surface or someone to hold the phone for you.

Do not look directly into the camera, but just to the side (left or right).

It might be helpful for you to speak to the person holding the phone or another, so that you can visualise whom you are addressing – either another character or the audience.

If using your mobile phone, please shoot in **landscape** not portrait.

2. Background – you must be seen clearly

Try to record against a plain, light background with no shadows behind you. Avoid busy, distracting images and hard colours like green and red. Ideally the background should be plain. Grey works for a wide range of skin tones.

3. Lighting – you must be seen clearly

Do not sit directly in front of a window with the light behind you. This may cause over exposure and create a dark, shadowed effect. A window in front of your face and behind the camera can work more constructively. Alternatively, you could use freestanding soft lighting that you may have already (torch light from a phone, stand lamps, side lights, bedside lamps for a soft feel) don't set them too high or too low to avoid causing awkward shadows.

4. Sound – you must be heard clearly

Check the space/room you have chosen to record in for sound i.e. close any windows, turn off any devices playing music in the background, air-conditioning, noise/talking/cooking sounds etc. that may be coming from another room.

Summary

1. Check your phone's camera settings
2. Do not look directly into the camera
3. Visualise the person you are addressing in your speech
4. Film in landscape
5. Try to film in front of a plain background
6. Can you be seen clearly?
7. Can you be heard clearly?

Self-tape submission requirements

You are required to submit two speeches:

One classical

One contemporary

Neither speech should be more than 2.5 minutes' long

A. Speeches – maximum 5 minutes' total

- In **long shot** (full body in the frame and leave a little headroom at the top of the shot) start by saying your **name**.
- Tell us which **2 pieces** you will be performing and in which order (character, play title, author).
- Stay in **long shot** and **perform your first piece**. (Max 2.5 minutes).
- Move towards the camera so that you are now in **mid shot** i.e. from waist to top of head in frame.
- **Now perform your second speech**.

N.B. we are trying to simulate a live audition and would like your video to flow from piece to piece so, if you can, please film your speeches in one continuous shot. Also do please stick within the timings set.

B. About You – maximum 5 minutes' total

As we are not able to meet with you face to face we have set a few questions for you to respond to so that we are able to get a sense of who you are as a creative person, and how you connect to acting/drama as an art form. In order to help us with this please answer the questions below. However, when you respond do keep in mind that the overall time that you have for the recording your speeches and the 'About You' response is 10 minutes, so do keep an eye on the time.

Stay in **mid shot** and tell us:

- About your previous acting experience i.e. school, college, amateur, youth theatre etc.
- How you are currently involved in acting/drama?
- What you would like to get out of the Fundamentals of Acting Course?
- Finally, could you tell us a bit about a film or TV drama that you have seen recently, (or maybe the last play you saw). Share with us what you thought about it and what you did or did not like about it.

N.B. Please note that we will only be able to view the first 10-minutes of your video, so it is important that you stick to the 10-minute guideline.

Summary

1. Tell us which speeches you will be performing
2. Perform 1 classical and 1 contemporary speech (maximum 5 minutes)
3. Answer the questions in the 'About You' section (maximum 5 minutes)
4. Try to film your speeches in one continuous shot
5. Before submitting your tape, check that you have stayed within the overall 10-minute time limit

C. Submitting your self-tape

- Record it once and then watch it back. It will enable you to mark out where you need to move to, to see the type of shot created. Have a break then do it again. It is important not to overthink this, record it a maximum of 3 times.
- When you are happy, submit your file to YouTube. You will need to set-up a YouTube account to upload the file (guidance in section D and E).

Summary

1. Record and watch it back so you can mark out where you need to move to
2. Record a maximum of 3 times
3. Take breaks between filming the 3 attempts

D. Google and YouTube guidance

- In order to upload your file, you will need a Google and a YouTube account (both are simple to set-up and free to use). If you already have a Google and a YouTube account, please skip ahead to section E – Upload.
- If you do not have a Google account, please follow Google's step-by-step guide [here](#).
- If you do not have a YouTube account, please follow Google's step-by-step guide [here](#). You can choose guidance based on whether you're uploading a file from an android or iPhone/iPad.

E. Upload

- Sign in to your YouTube channel. Tap the camera icon to upload your file and follow the instructions. For full instructions on how to upload your file to YouTube, please follow Google's step-by-step guide [here](#).
- Ensure that you title your file with your full name only. Do not include RADA in the title.
- Please set the file to an 'Unlisted' privacy setting. You can edit the file's privacy setting under 'Visibility.' Ensure you press the publish button.
- Add the link to your file to your application by tapping the YouTube SHARE icon, choose to 'copy' the link, and paste it within the body of your application email.
- Please only paste one YouTube link into your application email.

Summary

1. Upload your file to YouTube
2. Title your file with your full name and set the privacy setting to 'Unlisted'
3. Ensure you press the Publish button
4. Double check that the YouTube link works
5. Please add the link to your application email