

SKITS 24/7

A total of 24 skits,
7 Shakespeare-themed

By
Dwayne Yancey

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ABOUT THIS COLLECTION

Here's a collection of 24 skits, 7 of them Shakespeare related, just perfect for the thespians in your class. Students will clamor to perform these humorous skits, especially the unique versions of scenes from Shakespeare where actors speak in only one-word sentences. Most use from 1 to 5 characters. These skits are entertaining and appealing.

PREVIOUS PERFORMANCES

The following pieces were originally performed between 2003 and 2005 at No Shame Theatre under the auspices of the Mill Mountain Theatre in Roanoke, VA.

"Backstage at Elsinore With the Players"
"The Copyright Violation"
"The Efficiency Expert"
"Father, I Cannot Tell a Lie"
"The Film Noir 'Macbeth'"
"The Four-Leaf Clover"
"Job Interview Techniques for the Beginner"
"The One-Word 'Romeo and Juliet'"
"The Women of Deep Space..."

The following pieces were originally performed in January, 2005, by Mill Mountain Theatre in Roanoke, VA.

"A Suburban Housewife Applies ..."
"The Wright Sisters and Other Important Figures..."

"The Day the Church Picnic Went to Hell" was originally performed in September, 2004, by Ars Thespis in Erongaricuro, Mexico.

"The One-Word Hamlet" was originally performed in September, 2005, by the Herring Run Arts Fest in Middleborough, MA.

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SKITS

- "The Copyright Violation" (1 male, 1 female, 1 flexible)
- "The Four-Leaf Clover" (1 male, 1 female)
- "The Efficiency Expert" (3 flexible)
- "Father, I Cannot Tell a Lie" (2 males, 1 flexible)
- "First Impressions Can be Misleading" (1 female, 3 flexible)
- "Game Day Decisions" (3 males, 1 female)
- "Job Interview Techniques for the Beginner" (1 female, 4 flexible)
- "The Day the Church Picnic Went to Hell" (1 female, 1 flexible)
- "Math Is a Killer" (2 flexible)
- "Mrs. Henderson's Retirement Plan" (1 female, 2 flexible)
- "Zoe, the Office Superhero" (2 females, 3 flexible)
- "The Right to Remain Silent" (1 female, 1 flexible)
- "So Vanilla" (1 male, 2 females)
- "A Suburban Housewife Applies the Age-Old Lesson That the Best Way to a Man's Heart Is Through His Stomach" (1 male, 1 female)
- "The Day the Circus Tigers Decided They'd Had Enough" (2 flexible)
- "The Women of Deep Space Pay a Visit to Earth and Don't Like What They See" (4 females)
- "The Wright Sisters and Other Important Figures From Herstory" (1 male, 3 females)

7 SHAKESPEARE SKITS

- "Backstage at Ellsinore With the Players" (2 males, 1 female)
- "The Film Noir 'Macbeth'" (2 males, 2 females)
- "The One-Word Hamlet" (7 males, 2 females, doubling possible)
- "Puck Seeks Other Employment" (2 flexible)
- "The One-Word 'Romeo and Juliet'" (4 males, 1 female)
- "The Story Time 'Romeo and Juliet'" (1 male, 1 flexible)
- "Shakespeare Sells Out" (3 males, 3 females, 1 flexible)

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“The Copyright Violation”

(1 male, 1 female, 1 flexible)

(Two people stand outside a door. One is a well-dressed, no-nonsense LAWYER with a briefcase and a handful of legal papers. The other is a grungy REPO MAN with a threatening look. The lawyer knocks on the door. A YOUNG WOMAN opens it, cautiously.)

ALICIA: *(Warily.)* May I help you?

LAWYER: You're Alicia Johnson?

ALICIA: *(Still wary.)* Yes.

LAWYER: Alicia Lynn Johnson of 2458 Locustcrest Road?

ALICIA: What's going on? Who are you?

LAWYER: *(Handing HER a business card.)* Here's my card. I'm an attorney representing Megamedia Studios, Inc. and —

ALICIA: Oh! Look, I swear I returned that video on time and I paid all the late fees and everything and —

LAWYER: That's not why I'm here.

ALICIA: Then what —

LAWYER: *(Looking at his paperwork.)* Our records show that you recently made a trip to the beach and —

ALICIA: Yes, the Outer Banks. Why?

LAWYER: Where you visited a certain tattoo parlor, hereafter referred to as “The Parlor,” where you received a certain tattoo, approximately three centimeters to the left of the —

ALICIA: *(Using her hands to cover her posterior.)* Hey!

LAWYER: Here's the long and short of it: Your tattoo is against the law.

ALICIA: What? What do you mean? I'm over 18. I have a perfectly good right to get a tattoo if I want to.

LAWYER: *(Sighs.)* Paragraph one, section three. “Said tattoo depicts a cartoon character, the rights of which thereto are the exclusive property of Megamedia Studios, Inc.; any reproduction in any form whatsoever is hereby forbidden —”

ALICIA: It's a tattoo!

LAWYER: It's a copyright violation.

ALICIA: What? But nobody can see it. Well, except for my boyfriend and that one guy I met at that party but hey, that's none of your business anyway!

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LAWYER: Actually, it is. *(Continuing to read.)* “Any unauthorized use or display of the image of said cartoon character without the express written consent of Megamedia Studios, Inc. is a violation of all applicable federal copyright and trademark laws, and furthermore may constitute a violation of relevant international treaties and trade agreements governing intellectual property —”

ALICIA: It's a cartoon character! It's not intellectual property!

LAWYER: Sorry, ma'am, the law says otherwise. It may be a tattoo for you, but it's a valuable commercial, um, asset for my client. And your use of it is very much unauthorized.

ALICIA: But — but —

LAWYER: No buts about it.

ALICIA: *(Becoming belligerent.)* So what are you going to do about it?

LAWYER: You have two choices.

ALICIA: And they are?

LAWYER: Option one. You can sign this agreement. *(Hands over a thick legal document.)* As you'll see, it requires the licensee — that would be you — to pay a certain annual sum for the use of said character —

ALICIA: *(Reading the contract.)* Good grief!

LAWYER: It also spells out the schedule for residuals —

ALICIA: Ohmigod!

LAWYER: Royalties.

ALICIA: I don't believe this.

LAWYER: — and other miscellaneous fees.

ALICIA: I don't have that kind of money!

LAWYER: You'll also see that the contract governs the use and display of said character once a license has been granted.

ALICIA: *(Reading.)* What the —!?

LAWYER: Over in sub-section six, it spells out all the things you can and cannot do —

ALICIA: *(Reading.)* I can't do what?!

LAWYER: I'd suggest you pay particular attention to paragraphs 3 through 30.

ALICIA: *(Reading.)* No way!

LAWYER: May I remind you that any improper use or display of said character would reflect adversely on the copyright holder —

ALICIA: *(Reading.)* Well, I'd never do that anyway. At least not in public.

LAWYER: — and could potentially diminish the commercial value of the aforementioned character to Megamedia, its heirs and assigns—

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ALICIA: *(Handing the contract back to the LAWYER.)* I'm not signing this.

LAWYER: You're certain?

ALICIA: I mean, it's a stupid cartoon character on my — well, never mind where it is. I'm not paying you anything. I paid enough to have it done anyway.

LAWYER: Very well then. Don't say I didn't warn you.

ALICIA: So what's the other option? You said I had two options.

LAWYER: Your other choice? That would be Shylock here.

REPO MAN: Now? Can I do it now?

ALICIA: Who's he?

(REPO MAN grins an evil and threatening grin.)

LAWYER: Repo man.

(ALICIA screams as LIGHTS OUT go out abruptly.)

End of Scene

End of Freeview

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