

Name: _____

Character: _____ Scene: _____

Drama One Stage Business

Stage business refers to the gestures and activities an actor performs as part of a scene on stage. While **blocking** refers to the large movements -- crossing the stage, sitting, standing -- **business** refers to the smaller things -- combing hair, sipping tea, tapping pencil, etc.

There are two types of Stage Business that are used in scenes. They are called *necessary* and *interpretive* actions.

Necessary actions are actions that are called for or referred to in the script. For example, if a character says "Just a second, I'm putting on my lipstick", we know that the character needs to be putting on lipstick in that scene. Lines such as "This cookie tastes stale" tell the actor to take a bite of the cookie before that line.

Write any necessary stage business your character has in your scene:

Interpretive actions are actions that seem to suit the emotional state or circumstances of the character. for example, a nervous character might twirl her hair, or drum his fingers on the table. A frightened character might tremble slightly as she sips her water, or bite his fingernails.

Write two interpretive actions you could make to indicate your character's mood or emotions
