

Pick one. Your selection for your audition (preferably memorized but not necessary)

1. HORACE:

Ninety-nine percent of the people in the world are fools and the rest of us are in great danger of contagion. But I wasn't always free of foolishness as I am now. I was once young, which was foolish; I fell in love, which was foolish; and I got married, which was foolish; and for a while I was poor, which was more foolish than all the other things put together. Then my wife died, which was foolish of her; I grew older, which was sensible of me; then I became a rich man which is as sensible as it is rare.

2. CORNELIUS:

Thirty-three years old and I still don't get an evening free. When am I going to begin to live? How much money have you got--- where you can get at it? You and I are going to New York. Barnaby, we're going to live! I'm going to have enough adventures to last me until I'm partner. So go and get your Sunday clothes on. Yes, I mean it. We're going to have a good meal; and we're going to be in danger; and we're going to get almost arrested; and we're going to spend all our money. And one more thing; we're not coming back to Yonkers until we've kissed a girl!

3. DOLLY:

My pleasure? Mr. Kemper, when you artists paint a hillside or a river you change everything a little, you make thousands of little changes, don't you? Nature is never completely satisfactory and must be corrected. Well, I'm like you artists. Life as it is is never quite interesting enough for me---I'm bored, Mr. Kemper, with life as it is--- and so I do things. I put my hand in here, and I put my hand in there, and I watch and I listen---and often I am very much amused.

4. CORNELIUS:

Isn't the world full of wonderful things? There we sit cooped up in Yonkers years and years and all the time wonderful people like Mrs. Molly are walking around in New York and we don't know them at all. I don't know whether---from where you're sitting---you can see---well, for instance, the way her eye and forehead and cheek come together, up here. Can you? I tell you right now: a fine woman is the greatest work of God. You can talk all you like about Niagara Falls and the Pyramids; they aren't in it at all. And the kind of fireworks that shoot out of her eyes all the time. I tell you right now: a fine woman is the greatest work of God. You can talk all you like about Niagara Falls and the Pyramids; they aren't in it at all.

5. IRENE:

Take my word for it, Minnie, either I marry Horace Vandergelder, or I break out of this place like a fire-engine. I'll go to every theatre and ball and opera in New York City. But what I think Mr. Vandergelder is---and it's very important---I think he'd make a good fighter. Take my word for it, Minnie; the best of married life is the fights. The rest is merely so-so. Now Peter Molloy---God rest him!---was a fine arguing man. I pity the woman whose husband slams the door and walks out of the house at the beginning of an argument. Peter Molloy would stand up and fight for hours on end. He'd even throw things, Minnie, and there's no pleasure to equal that.

6. DOLLY:

Ephraim Levi, I'm going to get married again. Ephraim, I'm marrying Horace Vandergelder for his money. I'm going to send his money out doing all the things you taught me. Oh, it won't be a marriage in the sense that we had one---but I shall certainly make him happy, and---Ephraim---I'm tired. I'm tired of living from hand to mouth, and I'm asking for your permission. Ephraim---will you give me away?

7. HORACE:

I'm a man of sense, I guess you were surprised to hear that I'm planning to get married again. I have two reasons for it. In the first place, I like my house run with order, comfort and economy. That's a woman's work; but even a woman can't do it well if she's merely being paid for it. In order to run a house well, a woman must have the feeling that she owns it. Marriage is a bribe to make a housekeeper think she's a householder. Did you ever watch an ant carry a burden twice its size? What excitement! What patience! What will! Well, that's what I think of when I see a woman running a house.

8. CORNELIUS:

Women are so different from men. Why, everything that they say and do is so different that you feel like laughing all the time. Golly, they're different from men. And they're awfully mysterious too. You never can be really sure what's going on in their heads. They have a kind of wall around them all the time---of pride, and a sort of play acting; I bet you could know a woman a hundred years without ever being really sure whether she liked you or not. This minute I'm in danger. I'm in danger of losing my job and my future and everything that people think is important but I don't care. Even if I have to dig ditches for the rest of my life, I'll be a ditch-digger who once had a wonderful day.

9. DOLLY:

Money, money, money---it's like the sun we walk under; it can kill and it can cure. Horace Vandergelder's never tired of saying most of the people in the world are fools, and in a way he's right, isn't he? Himself, Irene, Cornelius, myself!! But there comes a moment in everybody's life when he must decide whether he'll live among human beings or not---a fool among fools or a fool alone. As for me, I've decided to live among them.