

Year 7 Drama - The Jungle Book

Hala Elabd - The Commonwealth - The Jungle Book

Starter: Vocal Toolkit

Projection
Pace
Pause
Pitch
Pronunciation

Vocal Toolkit: Star

Accent
Tone
Pause and Pitch
Pace
Concentration

How to interpret your character's voice

EXTENSION:

In this scene, Baloo's pace and pitch change a few times. Firstly, his normal pace was slightly slow and his pitch was somewhat deeper than a regular pitch (in between a high pitch and a low pitch) in most of his lines except a few; for example, in the line that goes, "Uhhh... This is a cave... it's my cave", his voice goes higher than it usually is and his pace quickens. In another line that goes, "You really don't remember what happened, do you." his pace is very quick here and his pitch plummets lower than his regular pitch. Furthermore, Baloo's volume is very soft and his tone is quite collected and nonchalant; in relation to that, his accent is relaxed and regularly apathetic (showing no enthusiasm) throughout the scene, however it changes when he asks, "Can you... climb?" He says it with interest and curiosity. It also changes in this line: "Let's quit wasting time." He says it sternly to emphasize that he wants to do something immediately and the little boy should not contradict. From what could be analysed from Baloo's voice, it seems to be that he had an American accent and he may have been from a place in the United States (it could be Illinois). Finally, he uses his pauses and noises to add comedy into the scene; at the beginning, the audience might have found it funny that Baloo was sniffing the boy for a long time. His pauses add a variation of effects in his speech. In the line that goes, "Uhh... This is a cave... it's my cave", the pauses added a sarcastic effect to the line. In the line that goes, "Can you....climb?" it adds a sense of anticipation, as the audience will not know what the end of the question is until Baloo completes it. When Baloo says this line, he sounds very interested to receive the answer. In addition, he deepened his voice and slowed his pace, which adds a sense of dramatic irony that the audience will indicate.

Extra challenge:

Baloo: Oh my. Oh my goodness, he said my name. Did you hear that?

I would say this by quickening my pace and making my pitch higher and squeaky to be able to sound excited and surprised. I would make myself sound very excited and happy. I would use a small pause between 'oh my goodness' and 'he said my name'. The volume of my voice would be loud here. It would be loud, because I would be very excited and happy that he did this, and I also would want everyone else (like Bagheera) to know this happened.

He said my name. Baloo, that's me, I'm Baloo, Baloo the Bear,

Here, I will continue with a quick pace and a high pitch. I would add another pause between 'he said my name' and 'Baloo, that's me'. I would lower the volume of my voice in this line, but it would still be loud.

Baloo the beautiful bear! Go on, say it again. Say it again, please, please, please, please.

I would slow the pace of my voice here and return to my normal pitch. I would make myself look and sound as if I'm begging the boy to say my name again. The tone I would use here is a soft sad tone, emphasizing that I (Baloo) would be sad if Mowgli didn't say it again. This will make him feel bad, which will result in him saying it again. The volume of my voice would be soft in this line. I would say it softly, because I would really want Mowgli to do it for me again, so the man-cub may feel bad for me if he doesn't do it. This will make him want to do it for me (for Baloo).

Physical toolkit: Gait, posture, mannerisms, stance, size, gestures, facial expression and eye contact.

1. What type of life form is your chosen character? A sloth bear.
2. Is this character considered powerful in the jungle? He teaches the cubs the ways of the jungle.
3. What size is this character? He is larger than Bagheera and Mowgli so he is quite large.
4. How does the character stand and/or sit? He sits with his bottom paws on the ground and his top paws up.
5. Describe the character's posture? He slouches when sitting and has a curved body.
6. How does the character walk or run? Describe their gait. He walked slowly and was very calm.
7. Do they lead with a specific part of their body? He walks on all four paws with his head facing the direction of movement.
8. Have they got any special mannerisms or repeated movements? Baloo is very calm and almost strolls around the jungle.

Baloo: Oh my days! Did you hear that! Did you hear him? He spoke!

He spoke! He actually spoke. (*Cartwheels and collapses*)

Oh my.....Oh my goodness. He said Bear. He actually said bear.

I would put my hands to my mouth in shock.

I would put my hands on my head and walk around a little as if still processing. But I would still be smiling.

I would put my arms up and push my fist into the air with joy.

I would have my arms hanging, not looking alive and stare into space.

I would put my hands to my heart and smile happily.

At this point, I would jump up and down.

Yumna Begum-Hoque - The Commonwealth - The Jungle Book

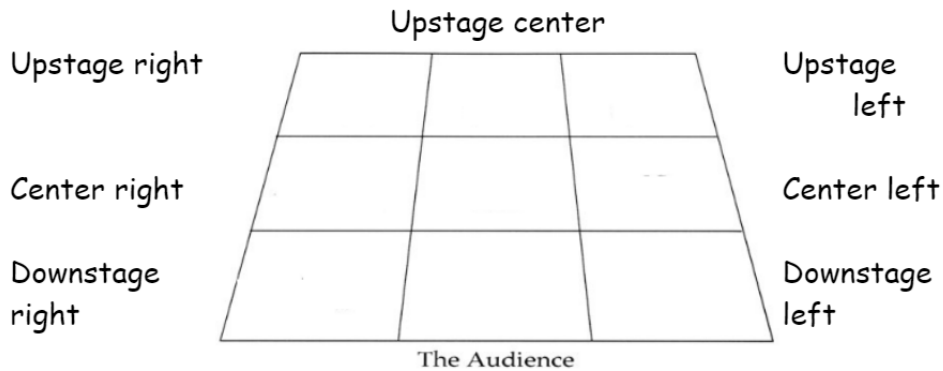
Spatial Toolkit:

Stage layout

Face audience

Levels

Transitions



Center stage is in the middle. Downstage center

Section 1:

Baloo: Oh my. Oh my goodness, he said my name. Did you hear that?

He said my name. Baloo, that's me, I'm Baloo, Baloo the Bear,

Baloo the beautiful bear! Go on, say it again. Say it again,

Please, please, please, please.

Mowgli: Bear.

Baloo: No, no, no. Baloo. Ba-loo. Ba.....

Mowgli: Baloo!

Centre stage_

Centre right_

Walking around the centre sections of the stage.

Standing still on centre left

Baloo: Oh my days! Did you hear that! Did you hear him? He spoke!

He spoke! He actually spoke. *(Cartwheels and collapses)*

Oh my.....Oh my goodness. He said Bear. He actually said bear.

Bagheera: I heard him.

Mowgli: Bear.

Centre stage_

Centre right_

Walking around the whole stage.

Cartwheels and collapse on downstage centre.

Downstage left

