

An Actor Prepares – Chapter 4 – Imagination

1. What is theatrical reality?
2. What is the most important tool an actor uses to turn a play into theatrical reality? (technique, using imagination in the process)
3. Which is more important, technique or imagination?
4. Does the author give sufficient clues to character in the text?
5. Talk about the famous tragic actor (p. 61). Are all actors liars?
6. Discuss the three generalities of types of imaginations.
(Imagination w/initiative, w/out initiative but open to suggestion, and unresponsive.)
7. Discuss the importance of active vs. passive imagination. (Point out that picturing yourself in a scene is passive – try to see the scene through your eyes as though you were a part of the scene).
8. Discuss the use of “if” to alter, define or create the environment.
9. Discuss the importance of logic and specificity in imagination.
10. Discuss the director’s two important actor “must-haves”
 - a. An unbroken series of supposed circumstances
 - b. A solid line of inner visions bound to same
11. Of what use was the exercise where the actors became inanimate objects? (p. 70-76)
12. Discuss the summary (p. 76-78) and its implied contradiction.