



The Actors Accent Coach



Character building blocks. Who are you? Why are you? Lets find out!

Developing your character can be as big as you want or a small as you want but at the end of the day the effort that you put in to knowing who you are the more the audience will see it and believe it. Feel free to add more questions to the list and really build out who you are. This should be lots of fun.

Lets start at the beginning.

Name

What is your name?

Do you have a middle name?

Who were you named after?

What would your parents have called you if you were a boy/girl?

What is your nickname?

Age

How old are you?

What is your date of birth?

What is your star sign?

Ethnicity

What is your ethnicity?

What is your country of birth?

What are you parents Ethnicities?

Sexual Preferences

What are your sexual preferences?

Family

Who are your family members?

Are they all alive?

Does your family live with you?

Does your family live close to you?

Were you adopted?

Location

Where were you born?

Where did you grow up?

What is your current location?

Where do you want to live?

Religion

Are you religious?

What is your religion?

What is your spirituality?

Politics



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Do you follow politics?
Which political party do you follow?
What are their policies do you like?

Education

Where did you go to primary school
What is your highest level of education?
Did you go to university?
What did you study?
Did you like school?
Did you like college?
Were you popular at school?
Were you a nerd?
Did you have lots of friends?

Music

What music do you love to listen to?
What music do you hate?
Who is your favourite band?
Have you ever been to see a live band?
Who did you go and see?
What year was it?
Have you been to music festival?
Can you playing instrument?
If you complain instrument what instrument do you play?
Are you good at playing that instrument?

Movies

what is your favourite movie?
Who is your favourite actor?
Do you have a celebrity crush?

Interests & Hobbies

What do you do on the weekends?
What is your favourite thing to do when you are on your own?
Do you like to do gardening?
Do you like to do outdoor sports?
Do you like to walk?
Do you do pottery?
Do you dance?
Do you sing?

Sports

Do you like sport?
Do you hate sport and if so why?
Do you do any sports?



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What is your favourite sport to watch?

Have you ever won any prizes or medals for doing sports?

Friendships

Who is your best friend?

Why are they your best friend?

Do you have any friends?

What do your friends like about you?

What do your friends hate about you?

Who are you? What are your beliefs?

Are you a nice person?

Are you a horrible person?

Do you have a criminal record?

If you have a criminal record what did you do?

When you are naughty what do you consider naughty?

What is the worst thing you've ever done?

Do you always tell the truth?

What is your biggest lie?

Personal

Are you clean?

Do you take pride in yourself?

How do you dress?

What class are you?

Are you rich or poor?

Have you had money or do you want money?

Are you tidy or messy?

Are you an introvert or an extrovert?

Are you a social person or are you a loner?

Are you a pessimist or an optimist?

Do you like alcohol or do you like drugs?

Have you ever travelled?

If you have travelled which countries have you visited?

What are your strengths?

What are your weaknesses?

What type of kid were you?

What past events have shaped you?

Animals

Did you have any pets growing up?

What was your pet's name?

Can you ride a horse?

Do you like animals?

Have you had a bad experience with an animal?

Do you like dogs?



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Physical

How do you walk?
How do other people see you?
Do you have a disability?
Do you have a physical ailment?
What is your posture like?
are you slouched?
are you strong?
Do you do exercise?
Do you work out?

Love

Do you know what love is?
Have you been in love?
Who was your first love?
Are you in love now?
Have you been married?
Do you have children?
Are you happily married?
Have you been divorced?
What would a jilted lover say about you?
Have you cheated?
Are you faithful?
Have you been engaged?
Are you single?
Would you like to be married?
Have you been proposed to?
What was the most romantic thing that happened to you?
Do you love romance?

Random thoughts?

If you were an animal what would you be?
If you were a colour what would you be?
Would you use violence to achieve your ends?
Secrets that you hold from everyone?

Voice

How do you sound?
How do you talk?
Do you have a high or low voice?
What is your accent?
Voice/speech, - tone, impediments



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Super Objective - (throughout the entire arc of the script - what is it you want most in the world - e.g. To save enough money to get her own place, to fall in love, to gain an education etc)

Current Objective - Most pressing/immediate want (e.g. to find a new job, for someone to notice her, to not get told off, to wreak havoc on another character etc)

Achilles Heel (the one thing that could always trips her up on her path to getting what she wants)

SCRIPT BREAKDOWN

When reading your script you really want to start thinking about your relationships with your other actors so write down everything where you talk about the other characters. This will help you understand your relationships with them and will also give you a feeling of where you stand with them in terms of the status to each other. You will be able to work out whether you like them or not and you can then also create your own personal opinion on each of the characters that you're working with.

As above you have gone through and written what other actors are saying about you now, I want you to write about everything that you say about yourself. Sometimes people speak badly of themselves or put themselves down or try to boost themselves so this will help you see how you see yourself in the world. Do you start off as shy and become confident? How does this change throughout the production/film/play.

Lastly, I want you to write out what the other characters in your production are saying about you this will give you a really strong image on how everyone else sees you.

Do you wear a mask when you're out in public and are you different when you're at home alone. Really dive deep into who you are.

SCENE WORK

I find it really important to go over and over and over your lines as much as possible, (just by rote i.e. without emotion or inflections, or in many various different ways - so you don't get locked into any patterns on how to say things)

If the lines are well and truly in, then you don't have to worry about them and can focus on what's really important in the scene- your subtext and what you want from the other character/s. Practise makes perfect so spend the time really getting to know who you are so that everyone in the room believes you are real.

Remember acting is being real in a fake environment and it's up to you, to bring, who you are to life.