

As You Like It

William Shakespeare

How does the stage metaphor organize a lifetime while also making individual importance seem temporary?

TOTAL TIME	TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION
30 minutes	Act II, Scene vii - “All the world’s a stage” speech

TEACHER SETUP

Open the work in the Enhanced Reader and cue the span using the START and END anchors below.

START	All the world's a stage,
END	Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.
PASSAGE ID	sec-ayli-seven-ages-01

THE MOVE

Follow a metaphor across a sequence and test what it emphasizes and leaves out

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Calling the world a stage gives Jaques a structure: entrances, exits, roles, and seven predictable ages. The metaphor creates order, but it also reduces individual lives to temporary parts in a repeated performance, ending with losses that strip away the features accumulated earlier.

MARK

Underline stage or performance language. Number the seven ages. Circle one defining image from each age. Box the language of entrance at the beginning and loss at the end.

NOTICE

- What becomes easier to describe once life is treated as a play?
- Which ages are defined by social roles rather than physical condition?
- How does the final age change the effect of the earlier confident categories?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How does the stage metaphor organize a lifetime while also making individual importance seem temporary? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response. Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.

STRONG ANSWER

The stage metaphor organizes life into recognizable roles and transitions, but it also makes each role temporary. People enter, perform successive parts, and exit; the final age reverses accumulation by removing capacities until the speech ends with “sans everything.”

EVIDENCE

Use the opening stage metaphor and one later age, especially the final one, to explain the pattern.

WATCH FOR

Do not present the seven ages as a scientific account of development. Analyze them as Jaques’s metaphorical framing of a human life.

SOLO

Read independently.

SUPPORTED

Narration + highlighting.

LISTENING

Listen; same evidence task.

STUDENT PAGE · GRADE 10 · LESSON 300

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WORK

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TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION	Act II, Scene vii - "All the world's a stage" speech
PASSAGE ID	sec-ayli-seven-ages-01

Your teacher will open or cue the work in the Enhanced Reader. Use the location and verbatim anchors below to confirm the assigned span.

START

All the world's a stage,

END

Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.

READ / LISTEN TO THE ASSIGNED PASSAGE SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration and highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the assigned passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK Underline stage or performance language. Number the seven ages. Circle one defining image from each age. Box the language of entrance at the beginning and loss at the end.
2. NOTICE What becomes easier to describe once life is treated as a play? Which ages are defined by social roles rather than physical condition? How does the final age change the effect of the earlier confident categories?
3. THINK Answer provisionally: How does the stage metaphor organize a lifetime while also making individual importance seem temporary?
4. WRITE Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.
5. CLOSE Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.