

GRADE 10 AND 11 MALE MONOLOGUES

Option A:

Hally from 'Master Harold' ... and the Boys by Athol Fugard

[Hally is a 17-year-old schoolboy, an only child, growing up in Port Elizabeth. His father is disabled and in hospital; his mother runs the St George's Park Tearoom, where this scene is set. Hally's closest relationship is with Sam, his mother's long-time black domestic worker and now waiter. Hally is reminiscing with Sam about a younger time together. Athol Fugard is South Africa's major internationally known playwright. This full play is published by Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1983, and Cape Town, 1993.]

(Pause. The telephone rings. HALLY answers it)

Hello, Mom ... Yes ... Yes no fine. Everything's under control here. How's things with poor old Dad? Has he had a bad turn? ... What? ... Oh, God! ... Yes, Sam told me, but I was sure he'd made a mistake. But what's this all about, Mom? He didn't look at all good last night. How can he get better so quickly? ... Then very obviously you must say no. Be firm with him. You're the boss. ... You know what it's going to be like if he comes home. ... Well then, don't blame me when I fail my exams at the end of the year. ... Yes! How am I expected to be fresh for school when I spend half the night massaging his gammy leg? ... All it needs is for you to put your foot down. Don't take no for an answer. ... Yes, Sam gave me lunch. ... I ate all of it! ... Right, I'll tell them. I'll just do some homework and then lock up. ... But remember now, Mom. Don't listen to anything he says. And phone me back and let me know what happens. ... Okay. Bye, Mom. (He hangs up. The men are staring at him) My Mom says that when you're finished with the floors you must do the windows. (Pause) Don't misunderstand me, chaps. All I want is for him to get better. And if he was, I'd be the first person to say: 'Bring him home.' But he's not, and we can't give him the medical care and attention he needs at home. That's what hospitals are there for. (Brusquely) So don't just stand there! Get on with it!