



Worksheet n° 3

SONG: All the World
Music by David Stanley © 2006

- 1 All the world. . . All the world. . . All the world's a stage
All the world. . . All the world. . . All the world's a stage
And all the men. . . all the men. . . all the men and women
Are merely players
- 5 All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players
They have their exits. . . their exits. . . their exits
And their entrances. . . their entrances. . . their entrances
And one man. . . one man. . . one man
In his time plays many parts
- 11 Baby crying
School boy whining
Lover sighing
- 15 Soldier fighting
Justice bribing
Old man trying
- Time for dying
- 20 Time for dying
Time for dying

All the world. . . All the world. . . All the world's a stage
All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players

Note

The song is based on the very famous monologue in *As You like It* in which life is compared to a play. The speech goes on to catalogue the seven stages of man's life: infant, school-boy, lover, soldier, justice, pantaloon and second childhood, "sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything".

Culture



This speech, "The Seven Ages of Man" suggests that the play was first performed in 1599 to inaugurate the opening of The Globe playhouse, which bore a sign depicting Hercules holding a globe with the *Motto Totus Mundus agit histionem* which means "All the World's a Stage"

Read & understand

Part 1 (lines 1 – 9)

- Underline the words related to theatre.
- What does Shakespeare mean by *the world's a stage and men and women merely players*?

Part 2 (lines 10 – end)

Intermediate

- Link the 7 ages of man to the pictures.
- Act out the passage. Form groups, having each group find a rhythm and gestures for the different stages. Work on the transitions between the different ages.

Advanced

- Link the 7 ages in the song to Shakespeare's text.
- Spot the action verbs used for each age. Act them out.

➔ Focus on language

(This task can be done in collaboration with the French Teacher)

Play with the figures of speech

Use a dictionary if necessary and, in groups, find French equivalents for these images. Then invent your own figures of speech on the same patterns.

- *The world's a stage*
- *morning face*
- *bubble reputation*
- *cannon's mouth*
- *creeping like snail*
- *sighing like furnace*
- *bearded like the pard*
- *etc.*

Say which are metaphors, similes or personification

Metaphor	makes a comparison between two unlike things without using "like" or "as".
Simile	makes a comparison between two unlike things, using an explicit word such as "like", "as", "resembles"...
Personification	a metaphor in which a non human thing or quality is talked about as if it were human.

THE SEVEN AGES OF MAN

(AS YOU LIKE IT Act 2, Scene 7)

All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players:
They have their exits and their entrances;
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,
Mewling and **puking**¹ in the nurse's arms.
And then the **whining**² school-boy, with his satchel
And shining morning face, creeping like snail
Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,
Sighing³ like furnace, with a **woeful**⁴ ballad
Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then a soldier,
Full of strange **oaths**⁵ and bearded like the **pard**⁶,
Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel,
Seeking the **bubble reputation**⁷
Even in the cannon's mouth. And then the justice,
In fair round belly **with good capon lined**⁸,
With eyes severe and beard of formal cut,
Full of wise **saws**⁹ and modern instances;
And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts
Into the lean and slipper'd **pantaloon**¹⁰,
With spectacles on nose and **pouch**¹¹ on side,
His youthful **hose**¹², well saved, a world too wide
For his **shrunk shank**¹³; and his big manly voice,
Turning again toward childish treble, pipes
And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,
That ends this strange eventful history,
Is second childishness and mere **oblivion**¹⁴,
Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.

¹ piaillant et vomissant

² pleurnichant

³ soupirant

⁴ mélancolique

⁵ serments

⁶ leopard

⁷ Brief worthless glory (bubbles are easily popped)

⁸ Capons : des chapons. Capons were used to bribe the judges. He's fat because he was bribed.

⁹ dictons

¹⁰ Personnage grotesque dans la comedia del arte (voir illustrations). C'est un vieillard avare et méchant.

¹¹ **pouch** for money, his purse.

¹² Les **hauts de chausse** qu'il portait dans sa jeunesse et dont il a bien pris soin sont devenus beaucoup trop grands

¹³ car son **jarret** est **amaigri** (par la vieillesse)

¹⁴ oublié



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<p>The Seven Ages of Man</p>		
		
		