

# TONGUE TWISTERS

**Grade:** K-12

**Goal(s):** To assist actors in vocal clarity necessary for proper diction.

**Materials:** None

## INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Gather the actors together, facing you.
2. Through call and response, speak any combination of the following tongue twisters and have the actors speak them back to you.

The raging rocks  
And shivering shocks  
Shall break the locks  
Of prison gates;  
And Phibbus' car  
Shall shine from far  
And make and mar  
The foolish Fates.  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
(Act 1, Scene 2)

Those be rubies, fairy favours,  
In those freckles live their savours  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
(Act 2, Scene 1)

And now they never meet in grove or  
green,  
By fountain clear, or spangled starlight  
sheen  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
(Act 2, Scene 1)

O dainty duck! O dear!  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
(Act 5, Scene 1)

Through the house give gathering light,  
By the dead and drowsy fire:  
Every elf and fairy sprite  
Hop as light as bird from brier;  
And this ditty, after me,  
Sing, and dance it trippingly.  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
(Act 5, Scene 1)

When the hurlyburly's done,  
When the battle's lost and won.  
*Macbeth (Act 1, Scene 1)*

Fair is foul, and foul is fair:  
Hover through the fog and filthy air.  
*Macbeth (Act 1, Scene 1)*

A cherry lip, a bonny eye, a passing  
pleasing tongue  
*Richard III (Act 1, Scene 1)*

## RAISING THE BAR:

- Let the actors lead the group recitation.
- Work faster and faster without losing the clarity of the words.
- Let individual actors voluntarily share their prowess.
- Have the actors create new tongue twisters using words and phrases collected from Shakespeare's plays.



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