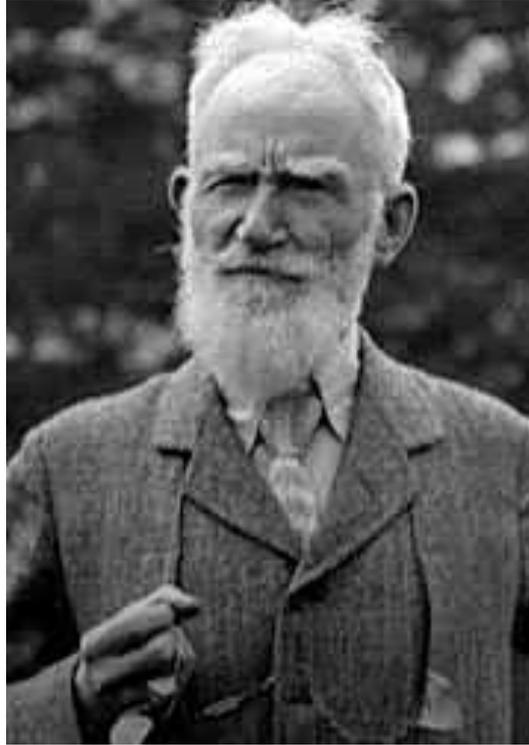


PYGMALION

By
Bernard Shaw



This teachers pack includes factual information as well as tasks and topics to be dealt with in the classroom. Cut and paste as you please, and please consult the official programme for additional information. Activities for students are framed for your convenience.

English Theatre Frankfurt
Teacher's Resource Pack

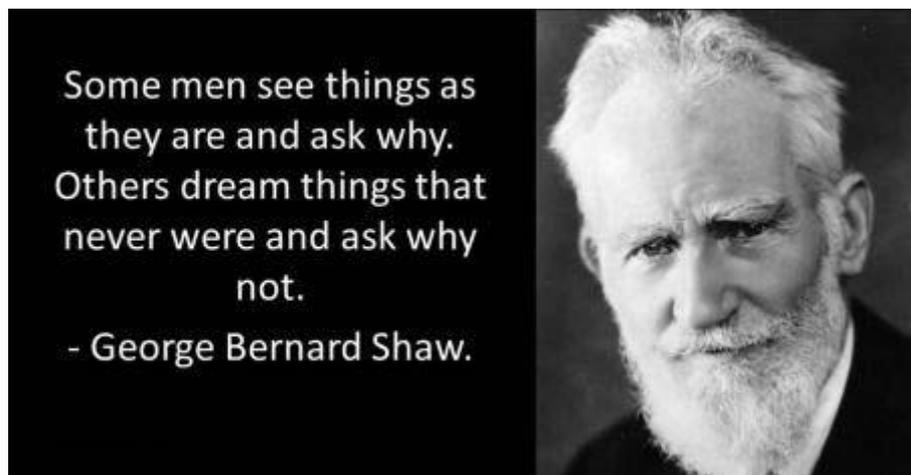
Who was George Bernard Shaw?

George Bernard Shaw was an Irish playwright and poet, born in Dublin in 1856. At the age of 20 Shaw moved to London, England to work as a writer and wrote reviews for theatres and music. During his life Shaw wrote plays and novels and was involved in political movements happening at the turn of the century. At the age of 94 in 1950 Shaw passed away after receiving injuries from falling from a tree.

George Bernard Shaw wrote lots of plays and they usually had a political message or social commentary. For example Pygmalion is considered a feminist play as it shows Eliza working to better herself and eventually move on from needing Henry Higgins.

Quick Facts

- Born 26th July 1856
- Died 2nd November 1950
- Awarded Nobel Prize in Literature 1925
- Awarded an Academy Award in 1938 for the screenplay adaptation of Pygmalion: My Fair Lady
- Preferred to go as Bernard Shaw rather than George Bernard Shaw



What is Pygmalion? A brief Synopsis:

Pygmalion is a play by the Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw. The play tells the story of Eliza Doolittle and how she wants to move up in society from the working class to being an upper class woman. She approaches Henry Higgins, a phonetics professor, who takes her on as a pupil but only to win a bet with his friend Colonel Pickering. The play goes on to show Eliza's change from low class wretch to upper class lady and eventually breaking away from Higgins to live her own life.

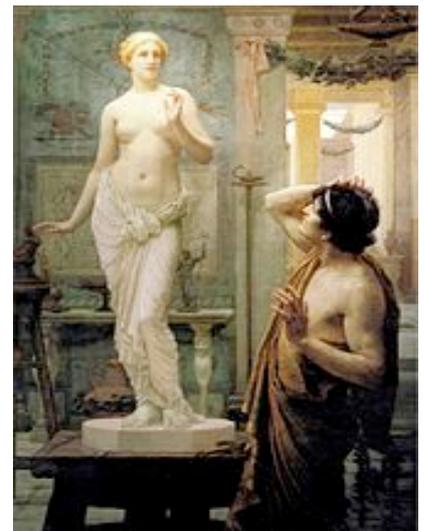


- **But what does Pygmalion mean?**

The title Pygmalion comes from an ancient Greek myth about a sculptor named Pygmalion who sculpted a statue of a beautiful woman and he falls in love with the statue. The Goddess Aphrodite brings the statue to life so Pygmalion can marry her.

- **Similarities Between Myth and Play**

Both contain elements of Metamorphosis.
Higgins and Pygmalion both detest women and go about making the perfect woman.



CHARACTERS

- Eliza Doolittle

Starting off as a lowly flower girl, Eliza wishes to move up in the world and work in a flower shop. She goes to Henry Higgins in the hopes that he can help her become more refined and go on to fulfill her dream. As the play goes on Eliza learns she is not a duchess or plaything to Henry Higgins but an independent woman capable of taking her own life in her hands.

- Henry Higgins

A highly intelligent man but impatient and quick to anger. He is an expert in phonetics and can place anyone to the street they live on just by hearing their accent. He agrees to take Eliza Doolittle on as a pupil but only to win a bet against his friend, Colonel Pickering, that he can turn someone as low on the social ladder as Eliza into a duchess.

- Colonel Pickering

A friend of Henry Higgins and also an expert in phonetics. Henry and Pickering meet each other for the first time in Act One Scene One but both have heard of each others work. Pickering is more sympathetic than Higgins in Eliza's plight and agrees to cover the cost of teaching Eliza if Higgins can make her look like a high society woman.

- Alfred Doolittle

Eliza's father who works as a dustman. When he finds out that she is staying at Henry Higgins home, he is quick to go there and ask for money from Higgins. He knows his place in society and is happy to get money from whom he can and to spend it on drink. By the end of the play he has become a middle class man going around England giving lectures, he is miserable by this as now he has to behave like a gentleman and deal with people asking him for money now.

- Mrs. Higgins

Mrs Higgins is the mother to Henry Higgins and disapproves of Higgins and Pickering's experiment with Eliza. Mrs Higgins hopes for her son to eventually marry but he has no interest as no woman can compare to his mother. By the end of the play Eliza comes to Mrs Higgins to get away from Henry as she is tired of how he treats her.

- Freddy Hill

A young man who falls for Eliza, he fails to recognise her as the flower girl from the first scene of the play and helps her get away from Higgins. He acts as a possible marriage option for Eliza as she is uncertain where her future may lay.

- Mrs Pearce

Henry Higgins housekeeper and voice of reason who tries to talk Higgins and Pickering out of their wager in the hopes of protecting Eliza.

- Mrs Hill

The mother to Freddy and Clara Hill. She is an upper class lady but her family is declining into middle class

- Miss Hill

Daughter to Mrs Hill and sister to Freddy, she is a young upper class lady and rather clueless.

PYGMALION, extended synopsis:

ACT ONE

Heavy rain drenches Mrs. Eynsford-Hill and her two adult children, Freddy and Clara, as they wait hopelessly for a cab. The Eynsford-Hills and other patrons have just exited the theatre after a late night show. As Freddie leaves to continue looking, he runs into flower girl Eliza Doolittle. Dressed in dirty rags, Eliza is not shy about voicing her displeasure, and in her loud cockney accent, demands payment for her ruined flowers. She is overheard by a gentleman note-taker, who correctly identifies Eliza's neighborhood simply by listening to her speech. He does the same for various bystanders and amazes all, including linguistics expert Colonel Pickering, who has coincidentally traveled to London to meet the famous note taker, phonetics extraordinaire Henry Higgins. Professor Higgins admonishes Eliza for her "kerbstone" English, and jokingly asserts to Colonel Pickering that "in three months (he) could pass that girl off as a duchess at an ambassador's garden party." Pickering and Higgins leave to discuss phonetics over dinner, and Freddy arrives with a cab only to discover his mother and sister have gone home on the bus. Eliza, still reeling from Higgins's insults, decides to treat herself to Freddy's cab with the money Higgins threw into her flower basket. Eliza arrives at her small and sparse rental room, counts her money, and goes to bed fully dressed.

ACT TWO

The next day, Professor Higgins is demonstrating his phonetics equipment to Colonel Pickering as both men relax at Higgins' Wimpole Street laboratory. Mrs. Pearce, Higgins' housekeeper, announces the arrival of a young woman. Thinking he can show Pickering how he makes records of his subjects' voices, Higgins asks Mrs. Pearce to admit the visitor. Cleaned up yet still obviously poor, Eliza enters the study. Higgins tells her to leave, but Eliza insists she is there to pay for voice lessons so she can be a lady in a flower shop instead of a street corner flower girl. Mrs. Pearce admonishes Eliza for her ignorance and poor manners, but Higgins begins to consider Eliza's proposal. Remembering Higgins's boast, Pickering offers to pay for the lessons and all expenses if Higgins can fool the party-goers at the ambassador's garden party and present Eliza as a lady. Higgins agrees excitedly and orders Mrs. Pearce to get Eliza cleaned up. Eliza balks at this new development, and Mrs. Pearce warns Higgins that he knows nothing about Eliza's family, nor has he thought about what to do with Eliza when the experiment is complete. Higgins is assured he is doing Eliza a favor, and with a mixture of chocolates and harsh scoldings, he talks her into staying. Mrs. Pearce shows Eliza to a lovely bedroom and bath, and scrubs her roughly despite Eliza's protests.

Meanwhile, Higgins assures Pickering he has only a professional, not a personal, interest in Eliza, as he believes that romantic relationships are too troublesome. Mrs. Pearce warns Professor Higgins that he must watch his language and manners now if he wishes to serve as a proper model for Eliza. Another visitor soon arrives, this time Eliza's alcoholic and spendthrift father, Alfred Doolittle. At first pretending to protect Eliza's honor, Doolittle quickly admits he wishes cash in exchange for silence over Eliza's living situation. Professor Higgins calls Alfred's bluff, but is then impressed by Doolittle's tirade against middle class morality. Sensing a kindred, though shameless spirit, Higgins asserts he and Pickering could turn Doolittle into a politician in three month's time. After a brief encounter with Eliza, whom he does not recognize, Doolittle leaves. The act closes with a sample of the phonetics lessons the sobbing Eliza endures for the next several months.

ACT THREE

The act opens several months later inside Mrs. Higgins's drawing room as she expects visitors. Her house is tastefully decorated and quite the opposite of her son's crowded quarters. When Higgins arrives without notice, his mother is dismayed and asks him to leave before embarrassing her in front of the impending visitors. Higgins tells his mother about his experiment with Eliza, informing Mrs. Higgins that Eliza will be trying out her new skills in front of his mother's guests. Next to arrive are Mrs. and Miss Eynsford-Hill, Colonel Pickering, and Freddy. Professor Higgins embarrasses his mother by belittling small talk, the very purpose of at-home days such as this one. When Eliza arrives, her audience is impressed. She is exquisitely dressed and appears quite well-bred. Freddy is particularly taken with her. The talk of weather turns to illness, and Eliza forgets her training when she says her aunt was "done in." Lapsing totally into her cockney brogue, Eliza astounds her audience. When Higgins attempts to salvage the situation by telling them Eliza's language is the "new small talk," the Eynsford-Hills are even further impressed. Higgins signals Eliza it is time she leaves, and Clara Eynsford-Hill attempts the "new small talk" herself, admonishing "this early Victorian prudery." Mrs. Higgins tells her son Eliza is not yet presentable, for although her appearance is impeccable, her language still gives her away. Professor Higgins and Colonel Pickering respond by singing Eliza's praises, boasting about her quick acquisition of dialect and her natural talent on the piano. Echoing Mrs. Pearce's earlier warning, Mrs.

Higgins is concerned about what will become of Eliza when the men are finished “playing with (their) live doll.”

With the six-month deadline approaching, Eliza is presented at a London Embassy. Professor Higgins is surprised to see one of his former pupils, a man who now makes his living as an interpreter and an expert placing any speaker in Europe by listening to his speech. The interpreter speaks to Eliza, and deems her English too perfect for an English woman. The interpreter is further struck by her impeccable manners and announces Eliza must be a foreign princess. Pickering, Higgins, and Eliza leave, Eliza exhausted and the men exhilarated by winning their bet.

ACT FOUR

The trio returns to Higgins’s laboratory, the men still bragging about their experiment. When Higgins asserts, “Thank God it’s over,” Eliza is hurt. Hurling his slippers directly at Higgins, Eliza accuses him of selfishness and bemoans what is to become of her now that the bet is over. Higgins suggests finding a husband for Eliza, and she is further insulted. Storming out of the house, Eliza encounters Freddy, who has been pacing, lovelorn, outside her window. Freddy expresses his love, and he and Eliza get into a taxi to make plans.

ACT FIVE

The next morning, Mrs. Higgins is seated at her drawing-room writing table when Higgins and Pickering arrive to report Eliza’s disappearance. Reproaching the men for their treatment of Eliza, Mrs. Higgins is interrupted by the arrival of Eliza’s father. Alfred Doolittle is dressed like a gentleman and is on his way to his own wedding. Blaming Professor Higgins for his newly found riches, Alfred explains how Higgins’ letter to the recently deceased Ezra D. Wannafeller led to Doolittle’s share in the wealthy man’s trust with the provision that Alfred lecture for the Moral Reform World League. Doolittle laments the fact that he has to “live for others and not for (him)self: that’s middle class morality.” When Mrs. Higgins announces that Eliza is upstairs, Higgins demands to see the girl. Eliza thanks Colonel Pickering for treating her like a lady, but accuses Professor Higgins of always thinking of her as a flower girl. Asserting her need for self respect, Eliza says she will not be returning home to Higgins. As the party leaves to go to Alfred’s wedding, Pickering and Higgins both ask Eliza to reconsider. Higgins admits that he has not treated Eliza kindly, but reminds her that he treats all people exactly the same. Admitting that he has “grown accustomed” to her, Higgins tells Eliza that he wants her to return, not as a slave or a romantic interest, but as a friend. When Eliza asserts that she has always been as good as Higgins despite her upbringing, the professor is truly impressed. Though the play ends ambiguously, with the possibility of Eliza marrying Freddy, she and Higgins have admitted their non-conventional need for each other, and Eliza has won Professor Higgins’s respect.

FEMINISM IN PYGMALION

Feminism is a range of political movements, ideologies, and social movements that share a common goal: to define, establish, and achieve political, economic, personal, and social rights for women. This includes seeking to establish educational and professional opportunities for women that are equal to such opportunities for men.

Eliza Doolittle begins the play as a lowly flower girl and wants more. She wants to move up in society and to be taken seriously. Through a chance encounter with Henry Higgins, a phonetics expert, she decides to approach him to learn how to change her position in life. Henry Higgins agrees to transform her into someone who could pass for a duchess, but as the play progresses Eliza learns that she doesn't want to be a duchess she wants to be able to make her own decisions and to be appreciated by Higgins and Pickering. Eliza had gone from seeking respect to learning self-respect and which gives her the strength to leave Higgins and to become her own independent woman.

At the time of writing *Pygmalion* the Womens Suffrage Movement was getting traction in Victorian England and by 1928 women over 21 were given the right to vote. It is believed that Shaw wrote strong women into his plays because of how he was influenced by his mother who was a strong woman who left Shaws father to move to England to pursue her own career and as a self-professed Socialist, Shaw believed women had the same rights as men.



The Influence of Pygmalion

Pygmalion, when it was written, was intended to be a play that satirises different classes in society at the time and to offer some social criticism as well. In film, TV and the theatre this style of genre can be referred to as a Comedy of Manners.

A Comedy of Manners is a form of entertainment that satirises and pokes fun at certain social structures. For example in *Pygmalion* it is both upper class and lower class. The lower class being represented by Eliza and Alfred Doolittle and their rise up and how they interact with those from a higher standing in society. For satire of the upper class it is demonstrated through Higgins training Eliza and how at the Ambassador's party she is mistaken for foreign royalty.

Today, however, class differences and structures are not as prevalent, now as we have access to different pop cultures and tastes, there is a wider choice for people to make shows based on those and because they can seem different to other people it is easier to make these a new Comedy of Manners. Examples are

Big Bang Theory *Frasier* *Absolutely Fabulous*

Shaws' *Pygmalion* has gone on to influence film and TV by creating a movie that follows turning someone from one style to another or most a popular TV shows that follow the same premise. Examples are

Film examples:

Mannequin *She's All That* *Pretty Woman* *Mean Girls*

Of course the most popular example is ***My Fair Lady***, which is a musical adaptation of *Pygmalion*. This adaption went on to win 8 academy awards and has been regularly been performed on stage around the world.

Think of your favourite TV show. Has any of the characters undergone a makeover? Have they regretted it?
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Received Pronunciation

The accent spoken by the British upper-class is called Received Pronunciation often shortened to R.P. This is the accent Higgins would have used to help Eliza get away from her

low class Cockney accent. Here are some vocal exercises to help you mingle with British Lords and Ladies.

Try to master these tongue twisters

- The rain in Spain falls mainly on the plain
- Give me the gift of a grip top sock
- Twist the twine tightly around the three tree trunks
- You know New York, you need New York, you know you need unique New York
- The big black bug bit a big black bear, then the big black bear bit the big black bug. And when the big black bear bit the big black bug then the big black bug bit the big black bear.

Repeat as necessary until you are ready to become a member of the British upper crust.

More examples are to be found here and further on in this document:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BSwqbhjLyrY>

The Art of Speech

Taken from the Sydney Theatre Company Pre-Production Education Resources 2012 www.sydneytheatre.com.au/stced

Form a circle.

Make the sound of the vowel and pass it on to the next person who repeats the sound and passes it around the circle.

Add Variations - loud to soft, soft to loud, slow and fast, wide and strong, exaggerated and emphasised, play with changes of pitch and rhythm.

Vowels

Shaped with the lips OO as in 'choose' oo as in 'book'

OH as in 'blow'

Shaped with the tongue

AH as in 'hard' u as in 'hut' ER as in 'burn' a as in 'had'

e as in 'bed'

AW as in 'law'
o as in 'hot'
OW as in 'shout'

i as in 'hid'
AY as in 'face'
EE as in 'breathe' I as in 'sky'
EAR as in 'hear'

OI as in 'voice'

AIR as in 'fair' OOR as in 'lure' Uh as in 'India'

Repeat making the sound of the constants *Constants*

P-B

T-D

K-G

L as in hard 'ball' & light as in 'love' CH -J as in 'which' & 'gin'

F -V

TH -TH as in 'bath' & 'there'

S-Z

SH-GE as in 'shine' & 'vision' M-N-NG

R

H

W -Y as in 'yes' & 'will'

Pronunciation Tongue Twisters

Say these aloud begin slowly and deliberately making sure you pronounce each word clearly.

Build up the speed until you can speak the phrases quickly without losing articulation.

"wicked cricket critic" "papa's got a head like a ping pong ball" "unique New York" "red lorry, yellow lorry"

"I'm not a pheasant plucker, I'm the pheasant plucker's son, and I'm only plucking pheasants 'till the pheasant plucker comes!"

"I want a proper cup of coffee in a proper copper coffee pot, clay pots, tin pots just won't do, if I can't have a cup of coffee in a proper copper coffee pot, I'll have a cup of tea"

Eliza's A-a-a-a-ah-ow-oooh

Take Eliza's phrase 'A-a-a-a-ah-ow-oooh!'

Speak softly and slowly progressively getting louder and faster.

Read in pairs the scene between Eliza and Higgins Act Five

LIZA: No: not now. Never again, I have learnt my lesson. I don't believe I could utter one of the old sounds if I tried. A-a-a-a-ah-ow-oooh!

HIGGINS: Aha! Just so. A-a-a-a-ahowoooh! A-a-a-a-ahowoooh! Victory! A-a-a-a-ahowoooh! Victory!

Edwardian Cockney

Eliza's Edwardian cockney accent would have been different to the way cockney sounds today. In Edwardian cockney the vowel sounds were emphasised and exaggerated. The word 'dear' would have a strong 'a' sound at the end of the word, making it sound like two syllables. And the word 'son' would have been pronounced as 'san'.

Edwardian cockney sounds were 'wide and strong' with lots of words ending in 'aaaaa'. For example: 'crown' was 'craan',

'nothing' was 'nufin', 'girl' was 'gew'

'Elsewhere' was 'elsweaaaaa'

For the aristocratic accent the sounds were the opposite to those of cockneys. The vowels were open, long and 'tall'. For example 'her' was 'har'.

Compare & Contrast Eliza's Cockney accent with her aristocratic one.

Edwardian Cockney:

LIZA: Ow, eez ye-ooa san, is e? Wal, fewd dan y' dooty bawmz a mather should, eed now betttern to spawl a pore gel's flahrzn than ran awy athaht pyin. Will ye-oo py me fthem?

Edwardian Aristocratic English Translation :

LIZA: Oh, he's your son, is he? Well, if you'd done your duty by him as a mother should, he'd know better than to spoil a poor girl's flowers then run away without paying. Will you pay me for them?

Read Aloud the two versions

Notice the differences between the two accents

How do you feel speaking Cockney? Aristocratic? Which do you prefer? Why?

Cockney Rhyming Slang

Cockney is famous for its rhyming slang, the construction of rhyming slang involves replacing a common word with a phrase of two or more words, the last of which rhymes with the original word; then, in almost all cases, omitting, from the end of the phrase, the secondary rhyming word (which is thereafter implied) making the origin and meaning of the phrase unknown to those who do not speak it. An example is "apple & pears" which means "stairs".

Can you match these Cockney words with their meanings?

Horse and Cart	Mate
Brown Bread	Queen
China Plate	Wife
Trouble and Strife	Believe it
Adam and Eve it	Dead
Baked Bean	Fart
Giraffe	Laugh

Can you translate this Cockney sentence?

“My china plate was having a giraffe with my trouble and strife, so I pushed him down the apple and pears and now he’s brown bread.”

Examples found here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-NxQO2ZZjJE>

Now write your own sentences for your classmates to translate.

Phonetics

Phonetics (pronounced /fə'netiks/, from the Greek: φωνή, *phōnē*, 'sound, voice') is a branch of linguistics that comprises the study of the sounds of human speech, or—in the case of sign languages—the equivalent aspects of sign. It is concerned with the physical properties of speech sounds or signs (phones): their physiological production, acoustic properties, auditory perception, and neurophysiological status

The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) is an alphabetic system of phonetic notation based primarily on the Latin alphabet. It was devised by the International Phonetic Association in the late 19th century as a standardized representation of the sounds of spoken language. The IPA is used by lexicographers, foreign language students and teachers, linguists, speech-language pathologists, singers, actors, constructed language creators and translators

Henry Higgins would have used phonetics and the International Phonetic Alphabet to help him understand the accents of those around him. For example when we first

encounter him he is writing down what Eliza says but when she asks to read it she cannot understand the words because Higgins would have been writing phonetically.

This is an example of what the professor could have written:

'tʃɪr ʌp kæptən ənd baɪ ə fləʊə ɔf ə pʊr gɜ:l

Cheer up Captain and buy a flower off a poor girl

You will have seen phonetic spelling before, when you look up a word in a dictionary, the phonetic spelling is in brackets. This is simply telling you how to pronounce the word.

Can you decipher these characters names? Match the name to the phonetic spelling.

Eliza	kɜ:n(ə)l pɪkərɪŋ
Henry	fredɪ
Colonel Pickering	henrɪ
Freddy	ælfɪd
Alfred	ɪ'laɪzə

Can you write your name using the Phonetics Alphabet?

Use the Phonetics Chart to write a sentence and see if your classmates can translate it.

ɪ READ	ɪ SIT	ʊ BOOK	uː TOO	ɪə HERE	eɪ DAY	TEACHER: LILIAN VERGARA	
e MEN	ə AMERICA	ɜː WORD	ɔː SORT	ʊə TOUR	ɔɪ BOY	əʊ GO	
æ CAT	ʌ BUT	ɑː PART	ɒ NOT	eə WEAR	aɪ MY	aʊ HOW	
p FIG	b BED	t TIME	d DO	tʃ CHURCH	dʒ JUDGE	k KILO	g GO
f FIVE	v VERY	θ THINK	ð THE	s SIX	z ZOO	ʃ SHORT	ʒ CASUAL
m MILK	n NO	ŋ SING	h HELLO	l LIVE	r READ	w WINDOW	j YES

Watching the Play

Did you pay close attention?

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. How many actors are on stage at the beginning of the play?

- a) 4
- b) 3
- c) 2

2. What is the weather like? It's

- a) Very windy
- b) Too hot
- c) Raining heavily

3. What is the problem in the opening scene?

- a) There's a protest in the streets
- b) There are no cabs (taxis)
- c) Someone got mugged

4. What is Eliza doing?
- a) Begging for money
 - b) Selling ribbons
 - c) Selling flowers
5. What is Professor Higgins doing?
- a) Taking notes
 - b) Taking photos
 - c) Taking his dog for a walk
6. The people in the beginning mistake the professor for a
- a) Judge
 - b) Policeman
 - c) Detective
7. What does Professor Higgins call Eliza?
- a) A squashed beetroot
 - b) A squashed tomato
 - c) A squashed cabbage leaf
8. Professor Higgins says he can turn Eliza into
- a) Cleopatra
 - b) The Queen of Sheba
 - c) Queen Victoria
9. How does Eliza get home?
- a) By bus
 - b) She walks
 - c) By cab (taxi)

In Professor Higgins Language Laboratory

10. How does Professor Higgins record accents?
- a) He uses a dictaphone
 - b) He uses a phonograph
 - c) He uses his iPhone
11. Why does Eliza come to see Professor Higgins?
- a) To sell flowers
 - b) To get work
 - c) To get elocution lessons
12. What is Mrs Pearce's reaction to Eliza?
- a) She finds her charming
 - b) She finds her common but she feels pity for her
 - c) She can't bear her
13. Just as Eliza is about to leave, Professor Higgins tempts her back with:
- a) Money
 - b) Chocolate

c) Wine

14. She won't accept at first because she thinks it is

- a) Bad manners
- b) Condescending
- c) Poisoned

The transformation begins...

15. How many baths has Eliza had in her life?

- a) One
- b) None
- c) Three

16. Mrs Pearce is shocked that

- a) Eliza is so afraid
- b) Eliza sleeps in her underwear
- c) Eliza doesn't trust her

17. Back in Professor Higgins study, Mrs Pearce accuses the professor of swearing. What is the offending word?

- a) Buzzer
- b) Blast
- c) Bloody

18. Who is Alfred Doolittle?

- a) Eliza's father
- b) Eliza's brother
- c) Eliza's cousin

19. What does Mr Doolittle do for a living?

- a) He is a conman
- b) He is a dustman
- c) He is a dockworker

20. What is funny about his name?

- a) It suits him because he does indeed do very little
- b) He can talk to animals
- c) Doolittle is a brand of dustbins

21. Why is Eliza wearing a bathrobe and not her clothes in this scene?

- a) She has just come out of the bath and didn't have time to get dressed
- b) Her own clothes were burned and she is waiting for new ones
- c) Her clothes are being washed and ironed

Visiting mother...

22. Mrs Higgins does not want her son to stay because

- a) He offends her friends
- b) He is drunk
- c) He has another appointment

23. Professor Higgins says “ All women are”
- a) Greedy
 - b) Vain
 - c) Idiots
24. Professor Higgins has taught Eliza how to make small talk. What is small talk?
- a) Talking like a baby
 - b) Keeping answers short
 - c) Polite, not serious conversation
25. What are the approved small talk topics for Eliza to use?
- a) The weather and health
 - b) The weather and wealth
 - c) The weather and traffic
26. Eliza creates her own small talk topics that include
- a) Celebrities and cricket players
 - b) Alcoholism and murder
 - c) Love and despair
27. What does “ they done her in” mean?
- a) They killed her
 - b) They had her arrested
 - c) They took her to hospital
28. After the guests leave, Mrs Higgins asks the same question that Mrs Pearce asked before. What is it?
- a) Are you in love with Eliza?
 - b) What is to be done with her afterwards?
 - c) Is she to be trusted?
29. Why do Higgins and Pickering want to take Eliza to the Shakespeare festival?
- a) They know Eliza enjoys Shakespeare
 - b) There is free beer
 - c) They think it will be funny to see Eliza’s reactions

The party...

30. Eliza is introduced as:
- a) Colonel Pickering’s student
 - b) Colonel Pickering’s fiancée
 - c) Colonel Pickering’s adopted daughter
31. Who is Nepommuck?
- a) The prince of Hungary
 - b) A former student of Professor Higgins
 - c) The host of the party
32. According to Nepommuck Eliza is not English because
- a) She speaks English too well
 - b) She has a foreign accent

c) She has no knowledge of English politics

33. A party guest told Eliza that she speaks just like-

- a) Cleopatra
- b) The Queen of Sheba
- c) Queen Victoria

34. Upon returning home the men talk about their accomplishment. Where is Eliza?

- a) Eavesdropping in the next room
- b) Hiding behind a cupboard
- c) She is sitting in the room

35. What does Eliza do for Professor Higgins in this scene?

- a) She fetches his newspaper
- b) She fetches his slippers
- c) She fetches his cigarettes

36. Eliza leaves the house and finds Freddy outside waiting for her. She reveals to him that she

- a) Wanted to commit suicide
- b) Wanted to kill Professor Higgins
- c) Wanted to run away

37. What does Freddy do?

- a) He confronts Professor Higgins
- b) He proposes to Eliza
- c) He calls the police

At Mrs Higgins' Residence

38. At the top of this scene Eliza is

- a) missing
- b) married
- c) moving-in

39. Who comes to visit unexpectedly?

- a) Freddy
- b) Alfred Doolittle
- c) Nepomuck

40. What is different about him?

- a) He has money
- b) He is ill
- c) He is drunk

41. Who is he blaming for his new middle class status?

- a) Colonel Pickering
- b) Professor Higgins
- c) Mrs Pearce

42. When Eliza appears she talks

- a) Cockney

- b) Small Talk
 - c) Phonetics
43. What does Eliza say she learned from Colonel Pickering?
- a) Manners
 - b) Small Talk
 - c) Style
44. She tells the Colonel that the beginning of her self-respect started when he:
- a) Opened the door for her
 - b) Pulled out her chair for her
 - c) Addressed her as Miss Doolittle
45. Eliza says she is a slave because
- a) She has to do household chores
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46. In the last scene Eliza said she plans to work as an assistant
- a) In a flower Shop
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47. What does Professor Higgins end up doing?
- a) Hitting Eliza
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48. When Eliza stands up for herself
- a) Higgins is proud of her
 - b) Higgins is angered by her
 - c) Higgins is proud of himself (because he taught her how to be proud)
49. Eliza leaves with Mrs Higgins. Where are they going?
- a) To a funeral
 - b) To a party
 - c) To wedding
50. Who is left alone at the end of the play?
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 - b) Professor Higgins
 - c) Freddy Hill

MULTIPLE CHOICE ANSWERS

1. How many actors are on stage at the beginning of the play?
- d) 4
 - e) 3**
 - f) 2

2. What is the weather like? It's
- d) Very windy
 - e) Too hot
 - f) Raining heavily**
3. What is the problem in the opening scene?
- d) There's a protest in the streets
 - e) There are no cabs (taxis)**
 - f) Someone got mugged
4. What is Eliza doing?
- d) Begging for money
 - e) Selling ribbons
 - f) Selling flowers**
5. What is Professor Higgins doing?
- d) Taking notes**
 - e) Taking photos
 - f) Taking his dog for a walk
6. The people in the beginning mistake the professor for a
- d) Judge
 - e) Policeman
 - f) Detective**
7. What does Professor Higgins call Eliza?
- d) A squashed beetroot
 - e) A squashed tomato
 - f) A squashed cabbage leaf**
8. Professor Higgins says he can turn Eliza into
- d) Cleopatra
 - e) The Queen of Sheba**
 - f) Queen Victoria
9. How does Eliza get home?
- d) By bus
 - e) She walks
 - f) By cab (taxi)**

In Professor Higgins Language Laboratory

10. How does Professor Higgins record accents?
- d) He uses a dictaphone
 - e) He uses a phonograph**
 - f) He uses his iPhone
11. Why does Eliza come to see Professor Higgins?
- d) To sell flowers

- e) To get work
- f) To get elocution lessons**

12. What is Mrs Pearce's reaction to Eliza?

- d) She finds her charming
- e) She finds her common but she feels pity for her**
- f) She can't bear her

13. Just as Eliza is about to leave, Professor Higgins tempts her back with:

- d) Money
- e) Chocolate**
- f) Wine

14. She won't accept at first because she thinks it is

- d) Bad manners
- e) Condescending
- f) Poisoned**

The transformation begins...

15. How many baths has Eliza had in her life?

- d) One
- e) None**
- f) Three

16. Mrs Pearce is shocked that

- d) Eliza is so afraid
- e) Eliza sleeps in her underwear**
- f) Eliza doesn't trust her

17. Back in Professor Higgins study, Mrs Pearce accuses the professor of swearing. What is the offending word?

- d) Buzzer
- e) Blast
- f) Bloody**

18. Who is Alfred Doolittle?

- d) Eliza's father**
- e) Eliza's brother
- f) Eliza's cousin

19. What does Mr Doolittle do for a living?

- d) He is a conman
- e) He is a dustman**
- f) He is a dockworker

20. What is funny about his name?

- d) It suits him because he does indeed do very little**
- e) He can talk to animals
- f) Doolittle is a brand of dustbins

21. Why is Eliza wearing a bathrobe and not her clothes in this scene?
- d) She has just come out of the bath and didn't have time to get dressed
 - e) Her own clothes were burned and she is waiting for new ones**
 - f) Her clothes are being washed and ironed

Visiting mother...

22. Mrs Higgins does not want her son to stay because
- d) He offends her friends**
 - e) He is drunk
 - f) He has another appointment

23. Professor Higgins says "All women are"
- d) Greedy
 - e) Vain
 - f) Idiots**

24. Professor Higgins has taught Eliza how to make small talk. What is small talk?
- d) Talking like a baby
 - e) Keeping answers short
 - f) Polite, not serious conversation**

25. What are the approved small talk topics for Eliza to use?
- d) The weather and health**
 - e) The weather and wealth
 - f) The weather and traffic

26. Eliza creates her own small talk topics that include
- d) Celebrities and cricket players
 - e) Alcoholism and murder**
 - f) Love and despair

27. What does "they done her in" mean?
- d) They killed her**
 - e) They had her arrested
 - f) They took her to hospital

28. After the guests leave, Mrs Higgins asks the same question that Mrs Pearce asked before. What is it?
- d) Are you in love with Eliza?
 - e) What is to be done with her afterwards?**
 - f) Is she to be trusted?

29. Why do Higgins and Pickering want to take Eliza to the Shakespeare festival?
- d) They know Eliza enjoys Shakespeare
 - e) There is free beer
 - f) They think it will be funny to see Eliza's reactions**

The party...

30. Eliza is introduced as:
- d) Colonel Pickering's student

- e) Colonel Pickering's fiancée
 - f) Colonel Pickering's adopted daughter**
31. Who is Nepommuck?
- d) The prince of Hungary
 - e) A former student of Professor Higgins**
 - f) The host of the party
32. According to Nepommuck Eliza is not English because
- d) She speaks English too well**
 - e) She has a foreign accent
 - f) She has no knowledge of English politics
33. A party guest told Eliza that she speaks just like-
- d) Cleopatra
 - e) The Queen of Sheba
 - f) Queen Victoria**
34. Upon returning home the men talk about their accomplishment. Where is Eliza?
- d) Eavesdropping in the next room
 - e) Hiding behind a cupboard
 - f) She is sitting in the room**
35. What does Eliza do for Professor Higgins in this scene?
- d) She fetches his newspaper
 - e) She fetches his slippers**
 - f) She fetches his cigarettes
36. Eliza leaves the house and finds Freddy outside waiting for her. She reveals to him that she
- d) Wanted to commit suicide**
 - e) Wanted to kill Professor Higgins
 - f) Wanted to run away
37. What does Freddy do?
- d) He confronts Professor Higgins
 - e) He proposes to Eliza**
 - f) He calls the police
- At Mrs Higgins' Residence*
38. At the top of this scene Eliza is
- d) missing**
 - e) married
 - f) moving-in
39. Who comes to visit unexpectedly?
- d) Freddy
 - e) Alfred Doolittle**
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40. What is different about him?

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DISCUSSION TOPICS

Explain the title of the play.

Pygmalion explores the importance of money and fashionable street addresses in the class structure of society. The beginning of the play makes several references to British money (shilling, ha-pence, penny, sixpence, tanner, half-crown, sovereign, tuppence) and districts (Selsey, Lisson Grove, Park Lane, Hoxton, Earls Court, Epsom, Wimpole Street). Does our European ignorance of these monetary values and locations detract from our understanding of the play?

When Higgins transforms Eliza from “a flower girl to a duchess” what changes does she undergo? What stays the same? Why does she enter the grand ballroom feeling as if she’s “in a dream,” and leave saying: “I don’t think I can bear much more... Nothing can make me the same as these people.”? Why does she feel that now, she belongs nowhere?

The relationship between Higgins and Eliza is complex. Although it appears throughout most of the play that Higgins is in control, the end reveals that Eliza has power as well. What is her power over Higgins?

Bernard Shaw wrote an afterword to *Pygmalion*, in which Eliza marries Freddy but keeps close contact with Higgins and Pickering. In 1956, *Pygmalion* was recreated as a musical, *My Fair Lady*, starring Julie Andrews and Rex Harrison. The film version appeared in 1964, starring Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison. The end of this adaptation has Eliza returning to Higgins, with the hint that she will marry him and not Freddy. This version also ignores Shaw’s depiction of Higgins as physically awkward. Why do you think these changes were made? Do modern writers have the right to change the ending of the story?

CROSSWORD please see the next pages

Links and References

George Bernard Shaw: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Bernard_Shaw

Pygmalion: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pygmalion_\(play\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pygmalion_(play))

Phonetics: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phonetics>

Phonetics Alphabet: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Phonetic_Alphabet

Cockney example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-NxQO2ZZjE>

Received Pronunciation example: <https://www.youtube>

<http://www.penguin.com/static/pdf/teachersguides/Pygmalion.pdf>

<http://www.shawfest.com/assets/guides/Pygmalion.pdf>

<https://d2wasljt46n4no.cloudfront.net/files/Community/Resources/past%20production%20resources/Pygmalion%20final.pdf>

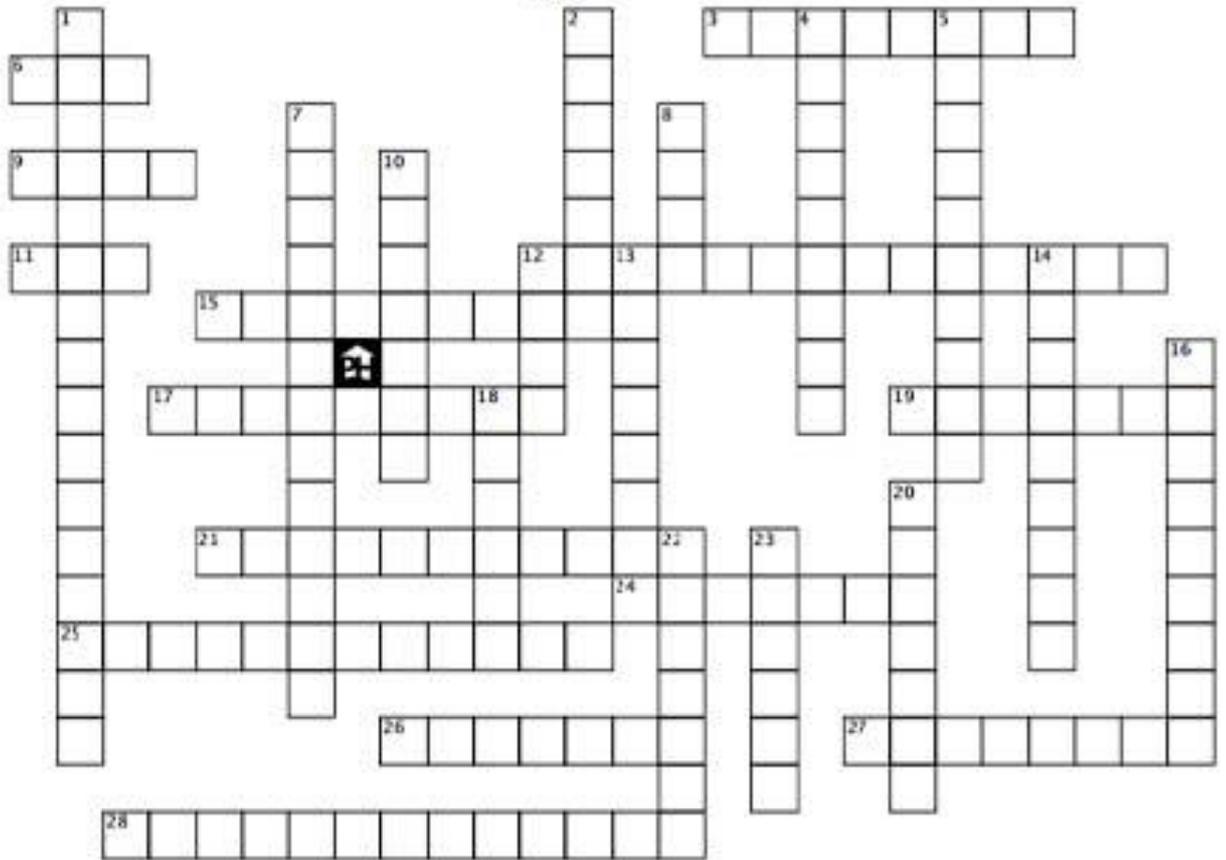
Across

3. Eliza's first new clothing at Higgins's house is a[n] _____ dress.
6. Higgins's reason for teaching Eliza: It was his _____.
9. What Freddy is to Higgins
11. Doolittle rejects Higgins's offer of _____ pounds.
12. The thing that has "broken the spirit" of Doolittle's bride-to-be
15. Eliza's job (2 words)
17. Higgins and Pickering claim that they're always "_____ new Elizas."
19. Eliza's _____ will "keep her in the gutter to the end of her days."
21. Alfred Doolittle ends up having to lecture at the Wannafeller _____ World League. (2 words)
24. According to Higgins, people are what?
25. Eliza's desire
26. According to Mrs. Higgins, you cannot speak and do this at the same time.
27. Higgins's logical suggestion for Eliza when her training is finished
28. Eliza Doolittle's reason for visiting Henry Higgins (2 words)

Down

1. Who is fascinated with "Spoken Sanscrit"? (2 words)
2. Besides people's health, the only other subject Eliza can talk about at Mrs. Higgins's gathering.
4. Henry Higgins's passion; described as "the science of speech"
5. In her estimation, Eliza was simply a[n] _____ to Higgins and Pickering.
7. Location of Henry Higgins's laboratory (2 words)
8. Where Eliza wants to eventually sell flowers
10. Higgins can tell where people are from by their _____.
12. What does Higgins throw into the fireplace?
13. What Eliza throws at Higgins
14. Mrs. Eynsford Hill's main concern
16. Higgins tempts Eliza with this treat to prevent her from leaving.
18. Eliza threatens to offer her phonetic services to this "impostor [and] humbug."
20. Alfred Doolittle's profession
22. According to Eliza, what really makes a lady?
23. "You certainly are a pretty pair of _____, playing with your live doll."

Pygmalion



Answer Key

Pygmalion

Across

- Eliza's first new clothing at Higgins's house is a(n) _____ dress. [JAPANESE]
- Higgins's reason for teaching Eliza: It was his _____ [JOB]
- What Freddy is to Higgins [FOOL]
- Doolittle rejects Higgins's offer of _____ pounds. [TEN]
- The thing that has "broken the spirit" of Doolittle's bride-to-be [RESPECTABILITY]
- Eliza's job (2 words) [FLOWER GIRL]
- Higgins and Pickering claim that they're always "_____ new Eliza." [INVENTING]
- Eliza's _____ will "keep her in the gutter to the end of her days." [ENGLISH]
- Alfred Doolittle ends up having to lecture at the Womanseller (2 words) [MORAL REFORM]
- According to Higgins, people are what? [SNAIGES]
- Eliza's desire [INDEPENDENCE]
- According to Mrs. Higgins, you cannot speak and do this at the same time. [WHISTLE]
- Higgins's logical suggestion for Eliza when her training is finished [MARRIAGE]
- Eliza Doolittle's reason for visiting Henry Higgins (2 words) [SPEECHLESSNESS]

Down

- Who is fascinated with "spoken language"? (2 words) [COLONEL PICKERING]
- Besides people's health, the only other subject Eliza can talk about at Mrs. Higgins's gathering. [WEATHER]
- Henry Higgins's passion, described as "the science of speech" [PHONETICS]
- In her estimation, Eliza was simply a(n) _____ to Higgins and Pickering. [EXPERIMENT]
- Location of Henry Higgins's laboratory (2 words) [WIMPOLE STREET]
- Where Eliza wants to eventually sell flowers [SHOP]
- Higgins can tell where people are from by their _____ [ACCENTS]
- What does Higgins throw into the fireplace? [RING]
- What Eliza throws at Higgins [SLIPPERS]
- Mrs. Eynsford Hill's main concern [INFLUENZA]
- Higgins tempts Eliza with this treat to prevent her from leaving. [CHOCOLATE]
- Eliza threatens to offer her phonetic services to this "imposter [and] humbler." [NEPHEW]
- Alfred Doolittle's profession [DUSTMAN]
- According to Eliza, what really makes a lady? [MANNERS]
- "You certainly are a pretty pair of _____ playing with your live doll." [BARRIS]

