

Uta Hagen's Nine Questions

1. Who am I?

Who is your character? Identify all the details: name/age, physical traits, relatives, education, personal opinions, likes, dislikes, hobbies, fears, ethics, and beliefs.

2. What time is it?

The year, the season, the day, the minute. What is the significance of time?

3. Where am I?

Identify the country, the city/town, the neighborhood, the building, the room, the specific area of the room.

4. What surrounds me?

What is happening in the environment around you? Weather, landscape, people, animate/inanimate objects.

5. What are the given circumstances?

Identify events in the past, present, future. What has happened, what is happening, what is going to happen?

6. What are my relationships?

This is more than your relationship to other people. Think about your relationship to objects, characters, and events.

7. What do I want?

What do you want immediately? What does the character want overall?

8. What is in my way?

What are the obstacles to getting what you want?

9. What do I do to get what I want?

What actions do you take (both physically and verbally)? What tactics?

Uta Hagen's Nine Questions Worksheet

Questions	Details	Answers
Who am I ?	<p><i>Who is your character?</i></p> <p>Identify all the details including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• name/age• physical traits• relatives, enemies• education• personal opinions• likes/dislikes• hobbies• fears• ethics• beliefs	
What time is it?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year• Season• Day• Minute <p><i>What is the significance of time?</i></p>	

<p>Where am I?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Country ● City/town ● Neighborhood ● Building ● Room ● Area of room 	
<p>What surrounds me?</p>	<p><i>What is happening in the environment around you?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● weather ● landscape ● people ● animate/inanimate objects 	
<p>What are the given circumstances?</p>	<p>Events in the past, present, and future.</p> <p><i>What has happened, what is happening, what is going to happen?</i></p>	

<p>What are my relationships?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objects ● Characters ● Events 	
<p>What do I want?</p>	<p><i>What do you want immediately?</i></p> <p><i>What does the character want overall?</i></p>	
<p>What's in my way?</p>	<p><i>What are the obstacles to getting what you want?</i></p>	
<p>What do I do to get what I want?</p>	<p><i>What actions do you take?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● physically ● verbally 	

Nine Questions Reflection

Reflect on using these nine questions as part of your character development. Which is the most important question? Which question was the easiest to answer? Which was the hardest? Why? How can answering these questions impact your acting?