

# SPEAK FREELY WHAT YOU THINK

## Expressing Yourself

Many of Shakespeare's characters talk about how vital it is to express yourself. In *A Shakesperience*, we hear from three women about how they will not be silenced:

### Paulina from *The Winter's Tale* says:

If I prove honey-mouthed, let my tongue blister  
And never to my red-looking anger be  
The trumpet any more.

### Emilia from *Othello* says:

No. I will speak as liberal as the air:  
Let heaven and men and devils, let them all,  
All, all, cry shame against me, yet I'll speak.



### Kate from *The Taming of the Shrew* says:

My tongue will tell the anger of my heart  
Or else my heart, concealing it will break;  
And rather than it shall, I will be free,  
Even to the uttermost, as I please in words.

## EXPLORE

**Step 1:** Look through the lines below.

**Step 2:** Choose one line from column A and another from column B.

**Step 3:** Go to Page 2 for suggestions to make these lines your own.

A	B
What passion hangs these weights upon my tongue? I cannot speak to her.	Those gracious words revive my drooping thoughts And give my tongue-tied sorrows leave to speak.
But break my heart, for I must hold my tongue.	When I think, I must speak.
Unhappy that I am, I cannot heave My heart into my mouth.	How silver-sweet sound lovers' tongues by night, Like softest music to attending ears!
Death ties up my tongue and will not let me speak.	Mistake me not. I speak but as I find.
My heart is great, but it must break with silence.	Most strange, but yet most truly will I speak.
I have no words; my voice is in my sword.	Look, what I speak, my life shall prove it true.
O, that my tongue were in the thunder's mouth! Then with a passion would I shake the world.	O heaven, O earth, bear witness to this sound And crown what I profess with kind event If I speak true!
Must I speak now?	I speak no more than everyone doth know.

# MAKE IT YOURS

Find your own way to express the lines you chose, and reflect on those choices with the prompts here.

## WAYS TO EXPRESS

- Speak the line out loud.
- Find a pose or gesture that expresses the line.
- Create a work of art.
- Any combination of these ideas!

## REFLECT

- Why did you choose the lines you did?
- Did they have anything in common with one another?
- How were they different from one another?
- How did you feel when you were expressing each of your lines?

## BY THE WAY, WHO SAYS THESE LINES?

What passion hangs these weights upon my tongue?  
I cannot speak to her.  
(Orlando in *As You Like It*)

Those gracious words revive my drooping thoughts  
And give my tongue-tied sorrows leave to speak.  
(Margaret in *Henry the Fourth, part 3*)

But break my heart, for I must hold my tongue.  
(Hamlet in *Hamlet*)

When I think, I must speak.  
(Rosalind in *As You Like It*)

Unhappy that I am, I cannot heave  
My heart into my mouth.  
(Cordelia in *King Lear*)

How silver-sweet sound lovers' tongues by night,  
Like softest music to attending ears!  
(Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*)

Death ties up my tongue and will not let me speak.  
(Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet*)

Mistake me not. I speak but as I find.  
(Baptista in *The Taming of the Shrew*)

My heart is great, but it must break with silence.  
(Lord Ross in *Richard the Second*)

Most strange, but yet most truly will I speak.  
(Isabella in *Measure for Measure*)

I have no words; my voice is in my sword.  
(Macduff in *Macbeth*)

Look, what I speak, my life shall prove it true.  
(Bolingbroke in *Richard the Second*)

O, that my tongue were in the thunder's mouth!  
Then with a passion would I shake the world.  
(Constance in *King John*)

O heaven, O earth, bear witness to this sound  
And crown what I profess with kind event  
If I speak true!  
(Ferdinand in *The Tempest*)

Must I speak now?  
(Flute in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*)

I speak no more than everyone doth know.  
(The Gardener in *Richard the Second*)