

FEATURE OF THE DRAMAIC MONOLOGUE

The main features of the dramatic monologue are:

The use of the first person singular "I" which stands for a persona, distinct from the poet

The use of verbs or expressions that refer to a listener or interlocutor, who does not appear directly in the poem

The use of colloquial language, with different degrees of informality

The use of dramatic, rather than lyrical, language that can be recognized by the presence of fillers, like "you see", "well" etc. or of deictics like "here, there, that, this" etc., as is typical of the language of drama

The revelation of a personality, or a particular pathology of a personality occurring at a critical point of life

The poet using the dramatic monologue reveals a marked interest in human psychology and the need to go beyond the limits of his own self and experience. That is the reason why the dramatic monologue is often connected with historical character, but is more generally an instrument for a poet's investigation into the variety and complexity of the human heart.