

Absalom Interview

Parts: Teacher and an assistant to play Absalom (*Choose someone who can exaggerate Absalom's role.*)

Costume for Absalom: Robe or cloak, belt, crown, big wig with lots of hair

Have Absalom in costume ready to enter the classroom when the Teacher says the first line below.

Teacher: Let's learn a bit more about Absalom.

Absalom: (*Enter with an exaggerated arrogant stride.*) Are you talking about me? I thought I heard my name.

Teacher: Uh, yes. Welcome, Prince Absalom. Thanks for visiting. I've heard people say that you're perfect from your head to your feet.

Absalom: (*Smile proudly.*) It's true, I am the most handsome man in all Israel. (*Strike a modeling pose.*)

Teacher: Your hair is quite amazing. Is it true that you only cut it once a year?

Absalom: Yes. I let these amazing locks grow for a full year before I cut them. (*Toss head proudly and run fingers through hair.*) Did you know that when I cut it, it weighs five pounds?

Teacher: Wow! That's a lot of hair!

Absalom: Yes. My great hair and good looks are legendary in Israel. In fact, I think I'm so great—I should be **king** of Israel!

Teacher: But your father, David, is king.

Absalom: (*Act annoyed.*) Yes. I know he is. But I'm working on that.

Teacher: What do you mean?

Absalom: Well, for one thing, I make sure everyone notices me when I go out. I ride in my own chariot and have 50 men run in front of me to clear the way.

Teacher: I guess everyone knows when you're coming, don't they?

Absalom: Of course. Not only that, but I'm making friends with as many people as possible, including these fine young people. (*Shake hands with a few students.*)

Teacher: So you're being kind to the people of Israel?

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Absalom: I tell them that I am their friend and greet them like I would greet my own family.

Teacher: That must make them feel good.

Absalom: Yes. It makes them *think* I like them. (*Laugh in a not-so-friendly manner.*)

Teacher: That doesn't seem very honest.

Absalom: (*Scoff and wave a hand dismissively.*) Honesty is overrated.

Teacher: So, what do you tell your new friends when you greet them?

Absalom: I tell them that if I were king, I would do much better than my father, David.

Teacher: Isn't that treason, trying to take the throne from your father?

Absalom: Not when I deserve the throne. I'm a *prince*, after all. (*Rub hands together gleefully.*) I must go now. I have people's hearts to win and a kingdom to steal! (*Exit with a flourish and an evil laugh.*)