

Active Reading

Cyrano de Bergerac Act 1

In act 1, Rostand presents a number of events that help define Cyrano's character and highlight his system of values. As you read the first part of the play, use the chart on this page to make notes on what different events tell us about Cyrano.

Event	What It Tells Us
He stands on his chair and forces Montfleury from the stage.	He is brave, aggressive, and follows through on his threat to remove the actor.
He challenges members of the audience to fight him.	
He criticizes Montfleury's acting style.	
He throws the bag of money on stage.	
He bullies the citizen who stares at his nose.	
He "teaches" the viscount how to properly insult his nose.	
He composes a ballad while defeating the viscount.	
He takes very little food from the foodseller.	
He becomes moody and subdued when the crowd has left.	
He refuses to take Le Bret's advice about Roxane.	
He instantly decides to defend Lignière from the 100 attackers.	