Uta Hagen's "Nine Questions"

Uta Hagen: "Respect for Acting"

1. Who am I? (character-search for character's life prior to

play's/scene's beginning)

2. Where am I? (environment: location, conditions)

3. What surrounds me? (persons, objects, color and texture)

4. What time is it? (hour, minute, date, year, century, era)

5. What are the given circumstances? (those events, facts, and conditions

occurring before or during the play/scene that affect

the character and /or action)

6. What is my relationship? (to all of the above and to other characters-solid or

shifting?)

7. What do I want? (Objectives or Intention –includes the overall

character objectives as well as more immediate beat-

to-beat intentions).

8. What's in my way? (Obstacle)

9. What do I do to get what I want? (ACTION – VERBS; physical, verbal,

psychological)