

Mime is the language of ballet. These gestures and facial expressions are used to convey the story of the ballet. Each scene in *Swan Lake* features these mimed conversations between characters.

Mime uses fewer words than English, but it still captures the overall meaning of the interaction.

Act I, Scene I

For example in the first scene, the Queen and the Prince have the following conversation:

Queen: You need to get married.

Prince: But I do not love anyone.

Queen: Your love does not matter, you need to get married anyway. Prince: I understand.

Take a look at the [Act I, Scene I video](#) to see what this conversation looks like in mime.

Act I, Scene II

In the second scene, Odette begs the hunters to not shoot her or the other swan-maidens. [The Act I, Scene II video](#) shows this in mime.

Act II, Scene I

In the Ballroom scene, von Rothbart demands the Prince swear his love to Odile in this conversation:

Von Rothbart: Do you promise your love to her? Prince: Yes, I promise my love.

The mime for this is featured in the [Act II, Scene I video](#).

Keep an eye out to see if you can spot these mimes as you watch the show!