Jungle Book Mowgli/Baloo audition scene

MOWGLI *(yawning*) Morning, Baloo.

BALOO Morning, is it? *(Looking upward)* The sun says it is noon.

MOWGLI Good. I’ll have my lessons after lunch. *(He starts to leave. BALOO stops him.)*

BALOO You’ll have your lessons *with* lunch. In fact, your first lesson today is concerned

with food. And, by the way, today’s lessons will all be in rhyme.

MOWGLI Why?

BALOO It’s a new talent I’ve developed. Now listen— (*He looks at his list.)*

“Honey and nuts and fruit to eat

Are so much better for you than meat.”

MOWGLI *(a bit bored)* Okay, so what’s next?

BALOO We’re not through with this one yet.

BAGHEERA You know how to get nuts and fruit. But where does honey come from?

MOWGLI That’s easy. Baloo’s paw. (*BALOO and BAGHEERA laugh.)* What’s so funny? You

always give me honey out of your paw.

BALOO And where do you think I get the honey?

MOWGLI *(seemingly uninterested)* I don’t know.

BAGHEERA Do you see that big round thing in that tree over there?

MOWGLI Sure. It looks like a large brown berry.

BAGHEERA That’s where honey comes from.

MOWGLI Then I’ll go get some. I don’t need you and fat old Baloo to teach me how to do

that. *(He exits.)*

BALOO Mowgli!

BAGHEERA Let him go.

BALOO But he’ll get stung by those bees. His hand may swell up.

BAGHEERA His head is already swollen up. He needs to be taken down a peg. He’s a good

boy, but he thinks he knows everything.

MOWGLI’S VOICE *(from offstage)* Owwww! *(MOWGLI enters, swatting at the air.)* Help! Help!

Something’s after me! Help! They’re attacking me!