Articulatory Agility
is developing the ability
to effortlessly and believably
utter clearly
the most conceivably
convoluted consonant combos
in the world.
Flexible lips and strengthened tongue-tips
are needed to toss off Cowardian quips.
And who can dispute a relaxed lower jaw
for spewing forth a torrent of Shaw?
It takes superlative diction
to theatrically mumble
and clearly be misunderstood in the jumble.
Be it couplets or prose - be is “dese”, “dem” or “dose”
from Shakespeare to Simon
from Moliere to Mamet
it simply won’t do
if they don’t understand it!

-Lilene Mansell

What a to do to die today
At a quarter or two to two.
A terrible difficult thing to say
But a harder thing still to do.
The dragon will come at the beat of the drum
With a rat-a-tat-tat a-tat-tat a-tat-to
At a quarter or two today,
At a quarter or two to two.

To sit in solemn silence in a dull, dark dock,
In a pestilential prison, with a life-long lock,
Awaiting the sensation of a short, sharp shock,
From a cheap and chippy chopper on a big black block!

by W.S. Gilbert of Gilbert and Sullivan from *The Mikado*