

Script Writing Tips

Unless you were born to the task of improvisation (lucky you!), having a script when you're performing a play or making a movie is a create idea. But how to write a script, and what are the essential elements of a good script?



The steps to an amazing script

1. The first step in writing your script is to plan your outline. If the script tells a story, you will need to know your story and plot it out. If you plan on presenting some research and want to share it in a theatrical way that requires a script, work out what you want your audience to know and in what order you want to share it. Having an outline is like having a map; it will tell you where to go with your script.
2. What journey is your lead character going to take through your script? Knowing what you want your lead characters to do or what actions you want them to take in your story is essential. Once you have worked out the details of the lead character/s, you can begin working out some other characters. Understanding more about your characters will help you 'get into their heads' and write for those characters. Give your characters their names and start adding their journeys to your script.
3. Think about the setting for your story. Where is your story set, and how does the setting affect the characters and story? Again, consider doing a drawing of your setting so you can see what your characters are working with. If your setting changes in your story, remember to write down when and how it changes in your script.
4. It's time to start adding in some stage directions so that the performers know what they are doing. Stage directions make it easier for your actors to practice their lines and understand the action that is occurring. They will also help the director to bring your script to life.
5. Now, it's time to start writing the lines. You need to try and make your lines fit with the personalities and emotions of your characters and with the stage directions you've already added. Think creatively when writing your lines, and consider how your lines can keep your story moving forward.
6. Edit! When you think you're finished, review what you've written and remove anything that doesn't relate to the story, even if it's fantastic.
7. Hold a read-through. Ask some friends to read through the script for you, taking on different characters you've created. Listen closely to what works and what doesn't. Consider editing your script again to make it flow better and tell your story more smoothly.
8. Rehearse and perform!