



CREATE YOUR OWN PUPPET SHOW

DRAMA 4: Scriptwriting

Session Four – Making a Story *This is a written exercise for KS2*

What is a Script?

A script is the written element of a play or drama. Scripts are used in Theatre and they are also used in TV, anything you watch on TV will have a script.

Who writes a Script?

A person who writes a script is called, A Playwright or A Script Writer.

Why are Scripts Used?

In theatre a playwright can adapt a well-known story or write their own, creating a story from scratch. Many times, a play wright will have done all their research before writing their play. Refer to our story making video for tips on this.

A script has lots and lots of details and instructions that helps whoever may be reading it.

So, a script will help an actor, who is performing in a play or on TV. And will also help the director, who helps to bring the story to life, but doesn't perform in the play.

Script Writing – TOP TEN TIPS

Now, I am going to share with you how I write a script.

1. Firstly, I like to create a timetable. No, not like a maths times table, more like a time line of the events of the story. Within this I work out; how many sections of the story I have, what order do they take place and when, so I can separate them into beginning, middle and end. It helps to have a starting point; you can do this after your story board or before if you like. To really understand your story before it comes to writing it.
2. Scripts are separated into scenes. Scenes are different events that happen in a play. Each scene has a number, that goes in order. For example, you will start with '**Scene One**'.
3. When your write Scene One on the top of your page, you will also write the title of the scene next to it. So, for example, it could be '**Scene One: The Wishing Well**'. This helps the actors and director know what part of the play they are reading.
4. Then you need to set the scene. Where is the scene taking place? Not to confuse you, but it doesn't have to be the same as the title, for example you could write '**They are in the garden**'. It's also important to list the characters who are in the scene, so you could write, '**Gill, David and**

Hassan are all in the garden'. So here I have described where the characters are so we start the scene here. It only needs to be a sentence.

5. Now you add the stage directions, so the director knows what your character is doing.

This could be:

(David holds the coin up to the sky to see the coin. Gill and Hassan are stood together, looking at David holding the coin)

You can also write when the music will come in.

(In the background we are the sounds of the garden, birds tweeting and the quite wind.)

6. In scripts you write what your character is saying, but you don't write 'David said, I wonder where this coin has come from'. Instead, you would write the character's name on the left-hand side of your page and what they need to say on the right. So, for example:

David: I wonder where this coin came from?

7. You can also add how you want the character to say this, by putting an emotion or tone of voice in brackets at the start of the sentence. The actor doesn't read this out.

David: (Confused) I wonder where this coin came from?

8. You can continue this structure throughout the play, you could have 5 Scenes or even 10 Scenes.
9. Remember, make sure you have a story in mind before writing your script and know how many scenes you have and what takes place in them. This will make it much easier to write.
10. If your feeling creative, you could draw a cover page for your script and give your script a title like:

'The Magical Coin and The Wishing Well' By Taylor Barnes.



Have fun writing your scripts! You can always ask for help, even play wrights have a friend who helps them along the way, but you also do this by yourself!

Thank you, that is the end of our Script Writing Session!

Below are the examples of the Story Time Line and a Page of a Script:

Story Time Line and Scene Breakdown:

'The Magical Coin and The Wishing Well' Scene Breakdown

Scene Name and Number	Location	Breakdown of Scene	Characters
Scene 1 'The Wishing Well'	The Garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• David has found a gold shiny coin in his back garden• His friends Gill and Hassan have no idea where it has come from.	Gill Hassan David

A page of a Script Example:

Scene One: The Wishing Well

(David holds the coin up to the sky to see the coin. Gill and Hassan are stood together, looking at David holding the coin. In the background we are the sounds of the garden, birds tweeting and the quite wind.)

David: *(Confused)* I wonder where this coin came from?

Gill: I have no idea, but it's deffo not from 2020!

Hassan: *(Confidently)* Maybe we should take it to a Museum?