

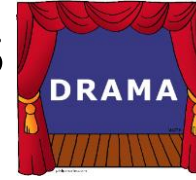
## Purpose

To allow the story to be acted out (with each character knowing his/her part) or read aloud.



# English writing genres

## Play script LKS2



## Useful words and phrases

### Example play script stage directions:

(after a short pause)  
(becoming excited)  
(coming towards him)  
(exiting the stage)  
(generously)  
(hiding her feelings)  
(in a hushed voice)  
(jokingly)  
(looking anxious)  
(looking confident)  
(moving away from her)  
(off stage)  
(peering behind him)  
(persuasively)  
(raising his voice)  
(shaking his head)  
(the telephone rings)  
(with an exhausted look on his face)

## Checklist

### Have you included:

- A scene heading
- A scene-setting introduction
- A narrator
- At least two characters
- Colons (:) after characters' names
- Brackets (with stage directions) to provide more information, showing what actors are doing, thinking or feeling.

## Features of play scripts

- Play script layout: character's name, followed by a colon, followed by what is said.
- For each new speaker start a new line then follow the same structure as above.
- No speech marks needed (even though this is a form of direct speech).
- Stage directions can be given before a character speaks, in the middle of the speech or at the end of the speech. These give extra information to the reader and those acting the scene out.
- Stage directions are given in brackets.
- Characters' speaking is usually quite short to keep the action moving.
- The story is made up of scenes that are numbered.

### Extra for experts

- Use a subordinate clause in the dialogue: Although there is a storm coming, we should not let it stop us.
- Include a simile in the dialogue: You are shimmering like a majestic diamond.