

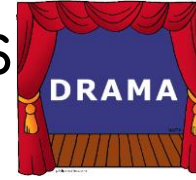
Purpose

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



English writing genres

Play script UKS2



Useful words and phrases

Example play script stage directions:

- (pausing briefly)
- (becoming excited)
- (approaching nervously)
- (doing his best to trick them)
- (exiting the stage)
- (agreeing generously)
- (hiding her feelings)
- (in a hushed voice)
- (replying jokingly)
- (peering anxiously around him)
- (looking confident)
- (moving away from her)
- (responding nonchalantly)
- (off stage)
- (peering behind him)
- (urging persuasively)
- (raising his voice)
- (shaking his head)
- (exhorting forcefully)
- (without showing emotion)

Additional language features

Checklist for play scripts:

Have you included?

- A scene heading
- An 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 stage direction or what is said.
- For each new speaker, start a new line then follow the same organisational structure as above.
- No speech marks are 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 (or reading it).
- Stage directions are given in brackets using present tense (or participle)
- The present participle and adverb (-ing -ly) construction is a useful template for stage directions (pausing suggestively, gasping breathlessly) but shouldn't be used exclusively.
- Characters' spoken word tend to be reasonably brief as this helps to keep the action moving.
- The story is made up of scenes that are numbered.