

## **:short story to script:**

Osmosis must have kicked in by now. Scripts must be just oozing outta ya. Wit and banter bursting from your swollen mind. Good. Now you will write a script. But here's that catch.

1. Read a variety of short stories from the following websites. One will probably not be enough.

The New Yorker  
Walrus  
Atlantic Monthly  
Granta

2. Make a bibliographic list of stories you have read. Submit with your final draft.
3. Choose ONE short story and think of ways to adapt it for stage + screen. You do not have to adapt the entire short story. You may choose a captivating "scene" from the story.
4. Write a contemporary hybrid stage play-screenplay. That means that elements of the screen - sound, music, video, voice-over - should be included in the script. You DO NOT have to include camera angles. The script/screenplay should not be more than four (4) pages in length.
5. Use stage directions and scene descriptions to help guide the 'narrative elements' of the story.
6. Use dialogue to propel the action of the chapter. Dialogue should reflect the 'voices' in the novel.
7. Form your stage-play/screenplay hybrid as follows:

page 1	<p>TITLE PAGE</p> <p>Based on the short story (title of short story)</p> <p>by (name of short story's author)</p> <p>Adapted for Stage + Screen By (your name)</p>
page 2	<p>Dramatis Personae (cast of characters w/ brief character sketch)</p>
page 3 plus	<p>Act ____ Scene ____</p> <p>Set/Scene Description (describe the set/scene/characters/relationships)</p> <p>Dialogue and Speech Descriptions (authentic (i.e. accented, slang) language from text + interpreted language/ dialogue based on the "voice" of the characters)</p> <p>Monologue or Soliloquy</p> <p>Stage Directions + Sound Elements + Camera Angles</p> <p>Musical Score (think of songs or instrumental pieces that would best reflect the tone/action of the scene)</p>

ALL text should use Courier Size 11 Font.

# HYBRID SCRIPT RUBRIC

name:

CRITERIA	LEVEL 1 50-59	LEVEL 2 60-69	LEVEL 3 70-79	LEVEL 4 80-89	LEVEL 4+ 90-100
SCRIPT FORM	LEVEL 1 50-59	LEVEL 2 60-69	LEVEL 3 70-79	LEVEL 4 80-89	LEVEL 4+ 90-100
Dramatis personae (character descriptions are brief, yet revealing)	needs work	adequate	good	excellent	phenomenal
Set Description (detailed; reflects type; establishes mood/ atmosphere)	needs work	adequate	good	excellent	phenomenal
Stage Directions / Camera Angles (moves story along; establishes relationships/ events)	needs work	adequate	good	excellent	phenomenal
Speech Description (reveals character reactions/actions; develops character)	needs work	adequate	good	excellent	phenomenal
Sound Elements (establishes mood, tone, realism)	needs work	adequate	good	excellent	phenomenal
comments					Total  /10
LANGUAGE	LEVEL 1 50-59	LEVEL 2 60-69	LEVEL 3 70-79	LEVEL 4 80-89	LEVEL 4+ 90-100
Authenticity/ Realism (uses slang/jargon; what and how people might really say words)	needs work	adequate	good	excellent	phenomenal
Sophistication of Language (suitable for audience; grammatically clear; reflects tone of script; colourful and vivid)	needs work	adequate	good	excellent	phenomenal
Monologue/Soliloquy (develops story, themes and character)	needs work	adequate	good	excellent	phenomenal
Humour (used to establish tone; develop characters; provide relief)	needs work	adequate	good	excellent	phenomenal
comments					Total  /10   /20

[scripts]

1. What do you know about plays and screenplays?
2. Read the Chris Scott article, "Tips for Playwriting". Anything sound familiar? Good.
3. Journal 14: INSULTS + QUOTES

Review the lists of Shakespearean Insults and 100 "Greatest" Movie lines.

Approach the writing task from one of the following perspectives:

Think of a scenario that has characters talking about something interesting.

Find five lines from the Shakespearean Insult list and five lines from the Greatest Movie Lines list that will fit uniquely and creatively into the dialogue.

Highlight five lines from the Shakespearean Insult list and five lines from the Greatest Movie Lines list. Create a scenario that uses these lines in a creative and unique way.

Write a short scene. Include the following:

Title

Dramatis Personae (Cast of Characters)

Set Description

Dialogue + Speech Descriptions(authentic (i.e. accented, slang) language from text + interpreted language/dialogue based on the "voice" of the characters)

Stage Directions/Sound Elements/Camera Angles (optional)

(picks up book)

(phone rings)

(CU on girl)

Highlight the insults and lines.

Read the dialogue aloud.

4. Read the excerpt from John Guare's play, Six Degrees of Separation. Watch the film version of the play.