



Play Scripts

Play scripts are the words, stage directions, and emotions actors are supposed to use when acting. This includes a list of characters. The parts of a play script include characters, dialogue, and directions of things that need to happen on stage. Each of these items are explained below.

Characters - Characters are the people in the play that are doing or saying something. Most plays have several characters. These are just like the characters in a story. They are listed in the beginning. The character names are stated on the left with a colon after the name. There are no speech marks. Each character name with the dialogue is written on a separate line.

Dialogue - Dialogue is what people or other characters say in a play.

Stage directions - These are the actions that are happening in a play. A stage direction may tell a character to turn a certain way or to show a specific emotion or have something happen on stage like dropping a book. These are usually written in *italics* and put into (parenthesis) so the actors will know this is not something that is said but done. These are normally said in present tense.

The entire writing, directions, characters, and any other information is known as a playscript.