

Mastering the Playscript: A Guide by Max the Monkey

Step onto the stage! Become a playwright and bring your stories to life!

- **The Character List:** This is found at the very start of the script, introducing everyone who will appear on stage.
- **Dialogue:** The words spoken by the characters. The character's name is always written on the left, followed by a colon.
- **Stage Directions:** These are written in brackets or italics. They describe actions, tone of voice, or how the stage should look.
- **Setting the Scene:** At the start of a scene, the writer describes the time and place so the audience knows where the story is happening.
- **Layout:** Playscripts use a clear, vertical structure so that actors can easily find their lines during rehearsals.

Did you know? Did you know? Playscripts are written to be heard and seen, not just read! Unlike a storybook, a playscript relies on dialogue to move the plot forward, and stage directions tell the actors exactly how to move, speak, or feel on the stage.

Key vocabulary: Dialogue · Stage Directions · Character List · Setting · Scene · Script