

# Playwriting Assignment

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## **DUE DATES:**

Rough Draft: Thursday, March 14

Final Draft: Monday, March 18

**TYPED:** the play must be typed

**COVER SHEET:** play title (18-point font) and student name (pg. 1)

**SETTING DESCRIPTION:** a paragraph that describes where the play takes place, what the stage looks like, what time period it is set in, etc. (pg. 2)

**CHARACTER DESCRIPTION:** a list of characters with a brief description of them and their personality, etc. (pg. 2)

**1<sup>st</sup> PAGE OF DIALOGUE:** (pg. 3) Follow formatting below.

**FORMAT:** 12-point font ONLY.

Character Names = **CAPITALIZED** and **BOLD** on LEFT side of page.

Dialogue= 1 tab and lined up off the left margin in regular font.

Stage Direction = indented/tab in from left margin and *italicized* OR *italicized* between parenthesis in the middle of dialogue

**DRAMATIC STRUCTURE:** includes all five steps:

Exposition, Inciting Incident, Rising Action, Climax, Resolution/Falling Action

**TIME:** 8-10 minutes reading it through (approximately 9-13 pages)

## Advice to playwrights:

- Remember this is to be performed ON A STAGE (not as a movie!)
- Use your logline and creativity worksheet to keep it connected
- Emphasize the characters – who they are, what they want, what’s in their way, their relationships, their need-to-tell, etc.
- Make the conflict huge – establish it, build it up, take it one step further, and raise the stakes