



Cadette Screenwriter Badge

By earning this badge you will try your hand at writing for the big (or small) screen. When you've completed this badge, you will know how to create a screenplay for a show or movie.

1. Describe what makes a good script good
 - a. Think about movies and shows you like and why you like them?
 - What genre are they?
 - What is a genre?
 - Jot down all of your favorite things about the genre you like best?
 - Is it a particular actor you like? Plot? Location? Etc?

2. Watch a movie, or 3 shows in a genre you are not interested in.
 - a. Take notes on why it is not entertaining to you.
 - Consider what could make it more entertaining if you were to remake it

3. Come up with an idea for a story
 - a. What's the basic format of a story or the general structure?
 - b. Think back to the movie/show you just watched
 - Did the beginning introduce characters and situations?
 - Did the middle build the story?
 - Did the end tie it all together?

4. Play story maker.

Materials: 24 index cards.

 - a. Divide the 24 index cards into 2 piles
 - 1 for characters and 1 for situations
 - b. Write an idea on each index card
 - c. Draw 2 from the character pile and one from the situation pile
 - d. Create a story based off of these index card choices.
 - e. Write down narrative about 3 scenarios you drew from the index cards.
 - This is your elevator pitch – quick and flashy summary of your potential script that is about 15-20 seconds long.



5. Get to know your characters.
 - a. In any character drive story you create you will need a protagonist and an antagonist.
 - Create a list of your protagonist and antagonist character descriptions
 - Create a one page character description for each character
 - A protagonist is the main character that moves the story along
 - An antagonist is the person or situation that gets in the way.
 - While writing your descriptions, try mixing and matching three aspects of people or characters you know and combine them to round out your characters.
 - For fun film your character descriptions being enthusiastic about their traits.

6. Build the Plot
 - a. You now have your story idea and your characters, now it is time to build a plot.
 - b. Find a plot twist
 - You can use the local news to help with a plot twist
 - Can you find the protagonist and antagonist in the news stories?
 - How are the protagonists and antagonists acting and reacting to the news?

7. Write a 12-page script and share it
 - a. Now is when the magic happens! Use your plot and start writing!
 - The first thing you should do is find a space that is comfortable for you.
 - Once you are settled, write there for 30 minutes straight. This can be challenging but set a time to let yourself know when you can end writing.
 - Write whatever comes to your mind it does not have to be perfect.
 - Once you have written for 30 minutes, spend 5 minutes reading what you wrote and making small edits.
 - Have your parent/guardian read your work and give you some feedback on what you have written.
 - Remember good feedback isn't about pointing out flaws, its providing suggestions for improvement.
 - Continue this process until you have completed your 12 page script.

8. Screen plays are written in a very precise format that includes information for the actor, the director, and camera people.
 - a. As you write your story, add these directions in so your reader can visualize each scene.