



Write a Play in a Day!

Writing a play can seem like a daunting task – but it doesn't have to be! Follow these simple steps to write an entire play in just one day.

Step 1: Make a list of interesting characters. Stick to simple “types,” for example: an alien, a police officer, a parent...

Step 2: Next to that list, make a list of characters that might oppose – or be in conflict with – your interesting characters. For example, next to “alien” you could write “astronaut.” Next to “police officer” you could write “criminal.”

Step 3: Your next task is to create scenarios – conflicts between pairs of characters. Pick one character from your first list, and another from your second list. What scenario could bring these two characters together in a compelling play? For example, you could choose “alien” and “astronaut.” One scenario might be, “An astronaut is setting up a space station on a planet he thinks is empty. The alien wants him to leave the planet.”

Step 4: Pick your favorite scenario. Now you're ready to start writing!

Step 5 (Protagonist's Monologue): Write a monologue from the perspective of your protagonist – the main character. The monologue should explain the conflict and how the protagonist feels about it.

Step 6 (Antagonist's Monologue): Write a monologue from the perspective of the antagonist (your second character) that functions in the same way.

Step 7 (Dialogue): Write a dialogue between these two characters, related to the conflict in the scenario.

Step 8 (“Winner's” Monologue): Finally, write one more monologue. This time, you can write from the point of view of either character. In this monologue, the audience should come to understand how the conflict was resolved and learn who the “winner” is – who gets what they want.

Good work! (That wasn't too hard, was it?)