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About Spec Script Writing

***What to expect,
what to consider,
and more.***

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A hand holding a silver pen is positioned over a document featuring a world map. The word "Agreement" is written in a large, bold, black font across the map. The document is slightly curled at the corners, suggesting it's a physical paper.

Agreement

What to do...

You've decided you need a script writer to bring your story to life. You've thought about your story for months - or longer - and now's the time to take the next step. That's great!

Now comes the fun part. Prevent duress by following this approach:

- Find the right writer
- Make sure both parties sign an NDA (Non Disclosure Agreement)
- Create and sign a formal Agreement, which should include:
 - Both Parties names and contact information
 - Project deadline (not to exceed 90 days)
 - Amount to be paid for writing service
 - Number and type of script edits
 - Specific terms of Agreement
 - Expected length of script
 - Who gets credit for what
 - Names of all parties
 - Script Copyright info
 - Managing disputes
 - Start date

Most disagreements come from unclear or badly defined communications between writer and client. Agreements protect all.

Scriptwriting costs

Many people do not understand what it costs to develop a script. Here's what to expect.

There is no mystery around the notion that screenwriters need to charge for their services. For many, the mystery is how much to expect to pay for a solid script.

If the screenwriter is a freelancer, a well written feature length script can cost between \$3,000 and \$5,000 and can go up as high as \$15,000 or more. [Source](#).

If the screenwriter is a member of the [Writers Guild](#), fees increase to a low of \$40,000 to \$86,000 depending on film budget. Fee amounts may vary depending on source.

The biggest mistake people make is trying to get a well-written screenplay without the benefit of Agreement and the correct level of funding. When interested parties go into the screenwriting endeavor with a common understanding they are more likely to succeed and the process will flow more smoothly.

A great script requires time and deep questions to discover the story beat points and relevant plot event(s) that help deliver a strong and engaging script.



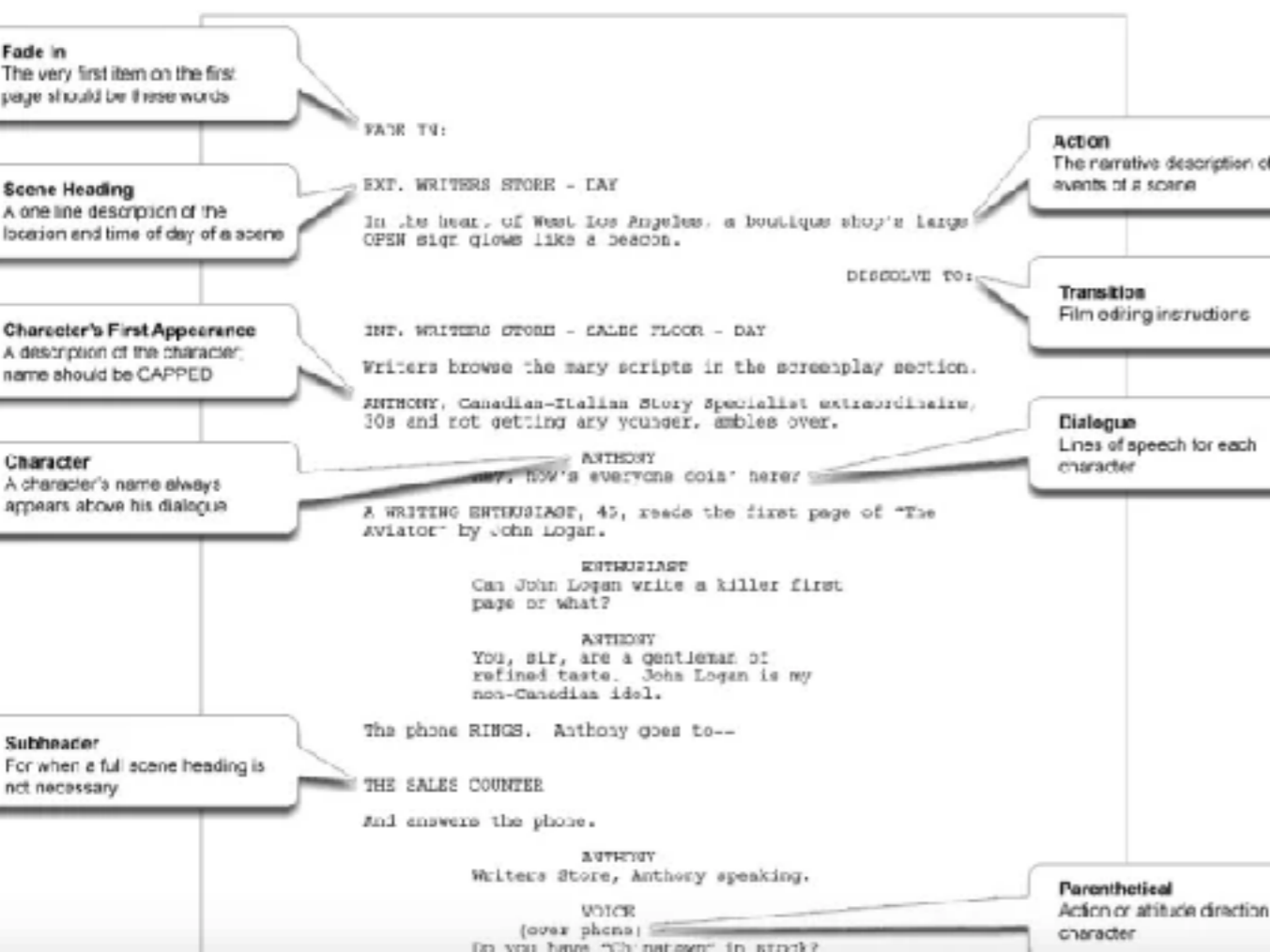


From idea to written word...

Your ideas have been marinating in your head for so long you can see your film scene-by-scene. That's great for you but your challenge is how to convey those images to the screenwriter you choose. A great screenwriter will ask probing questions that cause you to think about many different aspects of your story. This could be anything from character traits to event relevancy to location and so much more.

As a rule of thumb, the following list represents the bare minimum you should expect to discuss with your screenwriter:

- Relevant events (highest point(s) - lowest point(s))
- Characters
- Approach to the story (we can discuss)
- Rating: PG, PG-13, R, etc. - this determine how graphic the script will be
- How much artistic license you are comfortable with to embellish a beat point or to drive a point home
- The impact the event had on the person (victim) AND those in their sphere - this could be from long ago to today
- How the story ends (good note/bad note/thoughtful note)
- Is there a message you want integrated into the script - some moral element you want folk to reconnect with?



Benefits of a Screenwriter

Why you should consider this route

8 Benefits of Hiring a Professional Scriptwriter

(Source)

Among actors, directors, and filmmakers of all stripes, there is a commonly heard phrase: “It all starts with the script”.

So why not just write the script yourself? Here are 8 benefits of hiring a professional.

- 1) They're Part of the Team
- 2) They Write for Performance
- 3) They Can Cut a Long Story Short
- 4) They Write with Visuals in Mind
- 5) They Know Grammar (So You Don't Have To)
- 6) They Write Strategically
- 7) They Have Outside Insight
- 8) They See the Story in Everything

These reasons all have one thing in common: they show that the job of scriptwriting is much more specialized than one might guess. Yes, it is writing—but it is a very particular

kind of writing, one that demands a unique skill set. If you want to produce a video that truly engages people, then accept no substitute. Get your story straight—go with a pro.



About Me...

With degrees in Film and Entertainment Business from the Los Angeles Film School, I am proud of my dedication to learning and the time I put into understanding how every word written has a role in telling a great story.

Humans respond to emotional stimuli or messages and information that trigger their emotions. Therein is the power and value of words... by using them strategically in the form of a screenplay, screenplay create experiences that resonate at a deeper level and challenges us.

I leverage my life experiences, education, and exposure to myriad cultures to inform my world views. This translates to writing in ways that appeal to the common interests of society and help to draw the reader in.

I served honorably in the United States Marine Corps and the United States Air Force.

The process of using words to communicate a story resonates within me deeply and I take a lot of enjoyment out of going from idea to written expression. There's something special about a shared experience and this is part of what drives me.

After all, it's not so much about where we are as it is where we're heading... the journey is the adventure.

— Dedoceo Habi



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Contact Us

Contact by

Email only:

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***That idea you have... the one
you've been thinking about or
ruminating on for so long...***

***We'd like to see it come to life,
and we're here to make it so.***