

Play script layout

A playscript is written using a particular layout.

This script format helps actors and directors to clearly understand which **lines are the dialogue** [the conversation] and which are the **stage directions**.

Stage directions give us clues about who the characters are, what they are doing and the location of the scene. Often stage directions are in [brackets] or written in *italics*.

In the left hand margin, it also has the name of the character who is speaking.

Here is an example of what a script should look like:

Scene 3 The Grand Opening

In the factory manager's office. The manager paces up and down, shouting instructions at his secretary. He is nervous about the grand opening of his new tea factory.

Boss: So Miss Bridges, when our guest celebrity arrives, I expect spotless, gleaming machinery.

Secretary: *[nervously]* Sir, with respect, that will be rather difficult with all the...

Boss : What? Spit it out girl. All the what?