

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: Scriptwriter Safari: A 2nd Grade Playwriting Quest

Imagine and build original stage worlds by identifying character dialogue and using parentheticals to guide actor movement.

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**1. The setting tells the audience where and when the story happens. If a play starts with 'A dusty moon base in the year 3000,' where is the story located?**

**Answer:** C) In outer space

Setting describes the location. A moon base is located in outer space, providing the context for the actors' environment.

**2. In a script, the words that characters speak to each other are called \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** A) Dialogue

Dialogue is the specific term for the spoken interaction between characters that drives the plot and reveals personality.

**3. Stage directions are meant to be read out loud by the actors during the performance.**

**Answer:** B) False

Stage directions are instructions for movement or emotion (scaffolding the performance) and are not spoken as lines of dialogue.

**4. Look at this line: 'PRINCESS PIPPA (whispering): I found the secret map!' What does the word in the parentheses tell the actor to do?**

**Answer:** B) Speak very quietly

Parentheticals provide 'how' a line should be delivered; whispering means to speak softly so others on stage can't hear.

**5. A play's 'Conflict' is the problem that the characters are trying to solve.**

**Answer:** A) True

Conflict is a core element of plot development that provides tension and gives characters a goal to work toward.

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**6. If you are writing a play about a shy dragon, which character trait would best help the audience understand him?**

**Answer:** A) He hides behind a large rock when people wave

Character creation involves showing traits through actions. Hiding is a concrete way to show a character is shy.

**7. When a character leaves the stage, the script usually uses the word \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** C) Exit

'Exit' is the standard theatrical stage direction used to indicate a character is departing the playing area.

**8. Which of these would be a 'Stage Direction' rather than dialogue?**

**Answer:** C) [He trips over a toy truck]

Stage directions (often in brackets) describe physical actions or events on stage that are not spoken aloud.

**9. The person who writes the script for a play is called a \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** A) Playwright

A playwright is the specific term for an author who crafts theatrical narratives for performance.

**10. In a script, the character's name is usually written in BOLD or ALL CAPS before they speak.**

**Answer:** A) True

This is a standard formatting rule in playwriting to help actors easily identify their cues and lines.