

Name: _____ Date: _____

Scriptwriting Essentials for 10th Grade Playwrights

Students identify foundational script elements and analyze how stage directions and dialogue build dramatic tension in modern theatrical scenes.

1. In a script, what is the primary purpose of the 'inciting incident' within the plot development?

- A. To resolve all secondary character conflicts
- B. To introduce the setting and historical period
- C. To disturb the protagonist's world and start the central action
- D. To provide a summary of the play's main themes

2. The underlying meaning or unspoken thoughts of a character that exist beneath the actual spoken dialogue is known as _____.

- A. Super-objective
- B. Monologue
- C. Subtext
- D. Soliloquy

3. Parentheticals are short instructions placed within dialogue to indicate a specific delivery or physical action for the actor.

- A. True
- B. False

4. Which playwright is famous for using rhythmic, poetic dialogue and 'the pause' to show tension, as seen in 'The Birthday Party'?

- A. Harold Pinter
- B. Sophocles
- C. Oscar Wilde
- D. Anton Chekhov

5. A character's _____ is the specific goal or desire they are trying to achieve in a particular scene.

- A. Backstory
- B. Objective
- C. Resolution
- D. Exposition

6. Stage directions should usually describe every single blink and breath an actor takes on stage.

- A. True
- B. False

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7. If a play like 'A Raisin in the Sun' uses specific regional slang and sentence structures, the playwright is primarily using dialogue to establish:

- A. The play's lighting design
- B. Voice and cultural context
- C. The ticket price for the audience
- D. The length of the intermission

8. The structure of a script is often divided into large sections called _____, which are then further divided into scenes.

- A. Chapters
- B. Stanzas
- C. Paragraphs
- D. Acts

9. In playwriting, 'stakes' refers to the consequences of a character failing to achieve their objective.

- A. True
- B. False

10. What is the term for a long speech by a single character directed toward other characters on stage?

- A. Aside
- B. Monologue
- C. Dialogue
- D. Prologue