

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

## Wrangle the Script: A 5th Grade Playwriting Challenge

Subtext analysis, stage direction mapping, and character motivation — sharpen the tools needed to build a stage-ready narrative.

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**1. A playwright includes the line: '(She looks at the clock, then taps her foot rapidly)'. What is the primary function of this stage direction?**

- A. To tell the audience exactly what time it is in the story.
- B. To show the character's internal impatience without using words.
- C. To provide a rhythm for the background music.
- D. To explain the history of the house the characters live in.

**2. True or False: In a play, a character's 'motivation' must remain exactly the same from the beginning of the first act until the final curtain falls.**

- A. True
- B. False

**3. When a character speaks their inner thoughts alone on stage so the audience can hear their secret plans, this is called a \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. Dialogue
- B. Prologue
- C. Soliloquy
- D. Epilogue

**4. Analyze this scenario: Two characters are arguing about a broken vase, but the audience knows one character is actually upset about a forgotten birthday. This 'hidden meaning' is best described as:**

- A. The Exposition
- B. The Subtext
- C. The Resolution
- D. The Setting

**5. True or False: Effective dialogue in a play should usually sound exactly like a recorded transcript of a real-life conversation, including every 'um' and 'uh'.**

- A. True
- B. False

**6. In the structure of a play, which element is responsible for introducing the 'Inciting Incident' that starts the main conflict?**

- A. The Falling Action
- B. The Rising Action
- C. The Denouement

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

D. The Climax

**7. A playwright uses \_\_\_\_\_ to describe the physical world of the play, such as 'A dusty library in London, 1922.'**

- A. Protagonist
- B. Staging/Setting
- C. Antagonist
- D. Internal Monologue

**8. If an antagonist is written as 'three-dimensional,' what does that mean for the playwright's character development?**

- A. The character has a holographic appearance on stage.
- B. The character is purely evil and has no reasons for their actions.
- C. The character has complex motivations and believable human flaws.
- D. The character only appears in three scenes of the play.

**9. True or False: Every single line of dialogue in a professional script should either reveal something about a character or advance the plot.**

- A. True
- B. False

**10. The final part of a script where the loose ends are tied up and the conflict is fully settled is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. Exposition
- B. Rising Action
- C. Resolution
- D. Climax