

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: When the Script Comes Alive: 3rd Grade Playwriting Quest

Aspiring theater creators transform ideas into scripts by using parentheticals to guide actors and building tension through dialogue-driven conflicts.

1. If a playwright wants to show that a character is whispering without using words, they would write that instruction inside which element?

Answer: C) Stage Directions

Stage directions are instructions in the script that tell actors how to move or speak, helping the director visualize the physical action.

2. True or False: In a play, a character's 'motive' is the reason why they want something or act a certain way.

Answer: A) True

Motive is a key part of character creation; it explains the 'why' behind a character's choices and drives the story forward.

3. When two characters like a brave knight and a grumpy dragon talk to each other to solve a problem, their conversation is called _____.

Answer: B) Dialogue

Dialogue refers specifically to the spoken lines shared between two or more characters on stage.

4. Imagine a play about a lost robot. If the 'Inciting Incident' is the robot falling off a delivery truck, what part of the plot is this?

Answer: C) The Beginning (Conflict Start)

The beginning of a play introduces the main problem or conflict that the characters must try to solve.

5. A playwright uses a _____ to list every person or creature that will appear in the play before the story begins.

Answer: D) Cast List

The Cast List (or Dramatis Personae) tells the director and actors which characters they need to prepare for.

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6. True or False: Every time the location of the story changes (like moving from a park to a kitchen), the playwright starts a new 'Scene'.

Answer: A) True

Scenes are the building blocks of a play's structure, usually indicating a change in time or location.

7. Which of these is an example of an internal 'trait' for a character like a superhero?

Answer: B) Having great courage

While capes are physical, traits like 'courage' define a character's personality and how they react to the plot.

8. The very end of the play, where the mystery is solved or the characters find peace, is known as the _____.

Answer: C) Resolution

The resolution is the final part of the plot where the main conflict is settled and the story concludes.

9. True or False: Props (like an old map or a magic wand) are usually handled by the audience during the performance.

Answer: B) False

Props are objects used by the actors on stage to make the story feel more real and to help the characters perform actions.

10. If a playwright writes: '(Exit sarcastically, Stage Right)', what information are they providing?

Answer: C) How and where the actor leaves the stage

These are specific stage directions that combine movement (Stage Right) with the character's emotion (sarcastically).