



Worksheet 1: Getting Started

Exercise One – Finding a Spark

Think of an old story you like (e.g. a myth, legend or a film)

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What's special about it and why is it unique?

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Exercise Two – Word Association

Word	Write anything that comes into your head for 30 seconds.



Exercise Three – Inspiration from Everyday Life

Write down anything that has happened in the past year that was **funny, exciting, or unusual**. Describe what happened.

Event	Description
<i>e.g. My dog ate my homework.</i>	<i>e.g. When did it happen? What was the homework? What kind of dog was it? Who else was there? What happened next? How did you feel?</i>

Exercise Four – What-If Prompts?

Write down 3 'what if' scenarios:

1) What if
2) What if
3) What if



What happens when they get stuck in a lift together?

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Exercise Six – A Mystery Letter

Question	Your Answer
Who is reading the letter?	
Who wrote it?	
Were they expecting to receive it?	
Are they happy to receive it, or have they been avoiding it?	

Exercise Seven – Character Questions

Question	Your Answer
How old are they?	
What's their biggest secret?	
What do they want more than anything in the world?	

Exercise Eight – Play Concept

Create a concept for a play by writing down:



A setting

Characters (you can include yours from Exercise 7)

A conflict (you can include a What-If scenario from Exercise 4)

Worksheet 2: Character Profile

QUESTION	YOUR ANSWER
What's their name?	
How old are they?	
What's their gender?	
What do they look like?	
How do they speak?	
What is one of their key personality traits?	
What is their key flaw?	
What is their deepest desire?	
What is a defining event which happened in their past?	

Worksheet 3: Structure

Exercise One – World Building

Who is your character?

What are their traits? What makes them interesting? Why do we want to follow them?

Is the city in danger? Is their family at war with another family? Do they have to move house when they don't want to? Are they starting at a new school?

Where do they exist?

This could be a place in the real world, or a fantasy world, in the past, present or future! You might want to narrow it down to a town, street, a building, a room...

Why should an audience care about your character and their world?

What are the qualities in this character which makes them human, which can make an audience identify with what your character is going through?



Exercise Two – Inciting Incident

Think about what the inciting incident is in your story – what happens to your character which sets them off on their journey?

Exercise Three – Rising Action

What does your main character (protagonist) want? (e.g. to marry who they choose, to become King of Scotland, to save the city)

What/who is trying to stop them? (the antagonist) (e.g. their family, their friends, an evil supervillain)



What obstacles does your antagonist put in your protagonist's way? (e.g. trying to make them marry someone else, other heirs to the throne, battles, threats)

How does this build your protagonist's character after every attempt to get what they want? How do they change/develop? (e.g. do they become stronger/weaker, more/less confident, more/less determined?)

Exercise Four – Climax

What is the finale like in your story?

Where does it happen?

Who is involved?

What actually happens – is it a fight, an argument, a discussion?



Take some time to think about what your resolution will be and where your characters end up at the end of your story.

Exercise Six – Whole Structure

Now take some time to look back over your whole structure.

What is the overall journey your character goes on? (sum up in a sentence)

Are there any parts which feel confusing or unclear? YES/NO

If **yes**, how can you make them clearer?

Are there moments of excitement and conflict? YES/NO

If **no**, how could you add some in?

Has your character changed by the end of the story? YES/NO

If **no**, how could you develop your story so your character has changed by the end?



Worksheet 4: Scenes

Exercise One – Warm Up

Think about a scene that sticks in your mind. It might be from a play you've studied, or a conversation from a novel, or a scene from TV or film.

Once you've thought about it, write down a few things about that scene:

Where is it?

Who's in it?

What happens?

What changes for the characters?



Exercise Two – The Basics

Who's in your scene? For now, keep to 2 or 3 characters.

Where is it?

What has just happened before this scene?

What is the one big thing that is going to happen in this scene, which will change one or more of the characters in some way?



Exercise Three – Characters

Character Name	Overall Objective	Smaller Objective
<i>E.g. Juliet</i>	<i>E.g. Be with Romeo</i>	<i>E.g. Stop her parents from making her marry Paris</i>
1)		
2)		
3) OPTIONAL		

Make some notes on how your characters speak – e.g. are they quiet or chatty, aggressive or friendly, do they speak in long or short sentences?

Worksheet 5: Breaking Rules

RULE FOR A PLAY	HOW TO BREAK THIS RULE
<i>E.g. takes place in a theatre.</i>	<i>Set the play on a plane, mid-flight.</i>
1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
6)	
7)	
8)	
9)	
10)	



Worksheet 6: Redrafting

Exercise One – One Sentence Summary

Sum up your story in one sentence.

Who is your character(s)?

What is their goal?

What is their primary conflict?

Exercise Three – Imagining you are someone else...

Write down what *they* would think your story is about.

Exercise Four – Three things you like about your play.

1.

2.

3.



Exercise Five – Three questions about your play.

1.

2.

3.

Exercise Six – Five goals for the next draft of your play.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.