

U.S. STAGE PLAY FORMAT

by

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CHARACTERS

KB	Ex-teacher-turned-genius-Cocoa-programmer. Suave and sophisticated, with a penchant for Kronenberg Blanc. Overcome with despair since Kronenberg Blanc was discontinued in the UK, KB's sole mission now is to destroy the evil villains that took the amber nectar away from him.
DJ	KB's loyal, if somewhat combative, sidekick. After DJ's larynx was destroyed in a disastrous early attempt to retrieve vats of Blanc from an underground lair, he now has an electronic voice-box that makes him sound like a Dalek - which causes problems in his day job as a voiceover artist.
IP	The tech genius in charge of hacking. A perfectionist to the extent that by the time he has picked holes in the teams' plans and suggested seven hundred better courses of action, the bad guys have usually got away and everyone is left scratching their heads and wanting a Kronenberg Blanc - which they can't have, obviously.
JP	The peacemaker of the team who spends most of her time suggesting alternative beers and rolling her eyes.
LP	The insider. To the outside world, LP appears to be part of the evil Kronenberg Blanc-hating corporation the team are trying to expose, but LP is secretly bringing the team's plans to fruition from within.

SETTING

An untidy spare room in a house in Cornwall. Books and notepads are strewn everywhere, and dust collects on the singular (empty) bottle of Kronenberg Blanc mounted on the wall.

TIME

The morning on which this silly example file was written.

ACT I

Scene 1	The spare room.	Now.
Scene 2	A trampoline.	Earlier.

ACT I

Scene 1	A public house.	Evening.
Scene 2	The villain's lair.	Night.

ACT I

SCENE 1

(This sample script is based on the one created by Matt Carless for the BBC Script Smart website. Act numbers are given in roman numerals and scene numbers are given in arabic. In Scrivener, the correct numbering will be applied during Compile. Set description is indented and appears directly beneath the scene heading. Set description deals only with the set and what is happening on stage. It should be enclosed in parentheses.)

CHARACTER #1

Character names appear in capital letters indented to be aligned with the scene heading and set description. Scrivener will automatically add character names to the project auto-complete list so that you don't need to type them out every time.

CHARACTER #2

Dialogue appears directly below the character name in normal upper- and lowercase text.

CHARACTER #1

(Beat)

Parenthetical instructions appear in upper- and lowercase text enclosed in parentheses on a separate line.

(Pause)

Scrivener will place the directions in brackets automatically.

CHARACTER #2

One-word stage directions may appear directly after the character name in brackets - Scrivener will automatically put anything placed in brackets after a character name into lowercase.

CHARACTER #1 (like this)

Stage directions should not be typed on the same line

as dialogue.

(Stage directions that fall between the speeches of different characters should be offset by double spacing. In Scrivener, select the Scene Action element.)

CHARACTER #1 (Continued)

If the character's dialogue was interrupted, start a new character cue when continuing the dialogue with "Continued" in brackets after it.

(Indicate the end of a scene or act in brackets the same as stage direction.)

ACT I

SCENE 2

(Begin each act or scene on a new page. Pages should be numbered beginning at act one/scene one, not the title page.)

CHARACTER #1

It is customary to finish off an act and script like this:

(Blackout.)