

WRITING A SCRIPT

PURPOSE

First you need to understand clearly the purpose of your script— is it for a play? A TV news report? An advertisement? What are you trying to achieve through your script e.g. is it for entertainment? To inform? To try to sell someone something?

TARGET AUDIENCE

To whom are you speaking in the script? Do you have a 'target audience'? This means is your script for children, young people, adults, males or females or does it have a very wide audience?

Your audience will determine what you say and how you say it. The news is presented differently on "Newsround" which has a target audience of older children and teenagers than it is on the "6 O'clock News" which has a mainly adult audience. The news is the same but which parts of it are mentioned and the language used to explain what has happened are different.

SETTING IT OUT

The usual way to set a script out is with the name of the speaker or character in a column on the left hand side of the page and the words they are speaking on the right.

If it is a drama script you should also include stage directions e.g. movements and even how the words are to be said.

You should take a new line every time the speaker changes.

