

Play Scripts



Does your play script include...

a cast list?	
a short description of the setting?	
the speakers names on the left with colons?	
written detailed dialogue without speech marks?	
a structure that uses scenes?	
brackets for stage directions?	
a variety of punctuation used for effect?	
extended stage directions using adverbs, adjectives and prepositional phrases?	

Examples of Extended Stage Directions

(slouches down roughly into his high-backed chair)

(walks cautiously towards the mysterious knocking sound)

(crouches down on the ground, lifts the puppy's ear and whispers softly)

(looks suspiciously into the full-length mirror in front of him)

Prepositional Phrases

... a bright crystal chandelier hung **over the table...**

... she sneaks the book gently **into her coat pocket...**

... the lights **above the stage** dim and flicker...

Word Bank

across	answer	arrive	appear
bewildered	breath	breathe	cheerful
consider	continue	defiant	disappear
down	glamorous	heard	mention
minute	notice	position	promise
question	relieved	spotless	stomp
strange	surprise	tiptoed	through

Expanded Noun Phrases

... those ballet shoes...

... his worn school jumper...

... the tiny, marble statue...

... a loud, booming noise...



Adverbs

accidentally

angrily

anxiously

cautiously

completely

enthusiastically

frantically

gracefully

hungrily

joyously

loudly

madly

merrily

nervously

occasionally

quickly

repeatedly

sadly

shyly

solemnly



Key Features	Working in Mr Luton's Garden
cast list	Cast Thomas Luton: A grumpy, old man who likes to live alone.
short description of setting	Jacob Masters: A nine-year-old boy who has just moved to a new house.
speakers names are on the left with colons	Act I Scene 4 Thomas's lounge. He is all alone, sitting in a high-backed armchair and facing a marble fireplace. Opposite him is a large, broken window. Suddenly, a soft knocking sound begins offstage - as if someone is knocking on the front door.
detailed dialogue without speech marks	Thomas: (slouches down into his chair and grunts angrily) Here he is, the little scamp. (shouts) Come in!
structured using scenes	(Slowly, Jacob enters and shuffles reluctantly across the room. He is dressed in denim shorts, worn black trainers and a bright red t-shirt. His hands are in his pockets and his chin is touching his chest.) Thomas: (stands and stamps his foot indignantly) What do you want?
brackets for stage directions	Jacob: (raises his head slowly to look up at Thomas) I'm here to work off the cost of your front window, Mr Luton.
a variety of punctuation used for effect	Thomas: (grabs his wooden cane from beside his chair and begins to walk across the stage) Well don't dally about. Let me show you where the garden tools are. I could really use your help to clear out my back garden because my strength isn't what it used to be.
extended stage directions using adverbs, adjectives and prepositional phrases	Jacob: (takes his hands out of his pockets and begins to follow Thomas) I promise I won't let you down. I'm really sorry, Mr Luton. Thomas: (turns around, smiles down at Jacob. He ruffles his hair with his free hand) I know you are boy. It was a great hit with your cricket bat but you've got to learn to aim Jacob.