

Video Script Assignment 1

Names:

When this project is complete you will make a video with two other students. Your video must:

- Include a story (as described below).
- Show someone learning an important life lesson.
- Be one to two minutes long.

Following the tips from Stillmotion - Keywords and the 4 P's:

- 1) **Get an idea for your video.** You might start with the life lesson, a character you want in your video or maybe just some funny event that will happen. Just discuss some ideas and pick one. Write it here.
- 2) Now create **five keywords** that sum up the purpose and feel of your video. These will guide you through the rest of this assignment, so give this some thought.
- 3) Your keywords should lead you to a **purpose** statement. Write one sentence that sums up the purpose of your video. Remember, this is what you want the viewer to care about so he or she watches your entire video.
- 4) Now think about the **people** in your video. Since you probably have a group of three, write the three characters' names below and give a one sentence description of the character. (You might be acting in the video as yourselves or you might make up character names and roles. Whatever the case, list the names and descriptions.)
- 5) Where will your video take **place**? Since you're probably going to record this at school, think about places in or around the school. (You might have to set up a scene as if it was somewhere else, like a restaurant or workplace. That's possible, but be realistic.)
- 6) Now discuss the plot. What will be the main conflict that the person or people will confront?
- 7) Will the conflict be overcome successfully? Describe what the end of your story will be, including the life lesson that emerges.

Telling a story with Pixar's formula:

8) Fill in the blanks of the Pixar formula with information for your video. If it doesn't fit what you have above perfectly, make up some other elements just to make it fit. This might help with ideas later as you write your script.

Once upon a time _____.

Every day, _____.

One day _____.

Because of that, _____.

Because of that, _____.

Until finally _____.

Using the Storyline format:

9) The Storyline format is very simple: **A character who wants something and overcomes conflict to get it.**

You already wrote about your characters and conflict above. Now think about the main character of the video. What does he or she want most?

10) Now write your story in the Storyline format. Be sure to include the character, a brief description, what he or she wants and what the conflict is. Here are two examples:

- Heather is a teen living in poverty who wants a job really bad, but all her free time is spent taking care of her younger siblings.
- Ryan is a very smart loner who wants desperately to ask the new girl to the homecoming dance, but he's so shy he rarely talks to anyone at school.

11) Now that you've thought of your story in three different ways, write an outline of what will happen from beginning to end.

12) On a separate sheet of paper, write a complete script. This will include everything--

- Any titles that will appear on the screen
- Exactly what the actors will say
- Any narration that might be used
- Brief setting descriptions, scene changes and directions (such as "said with feeling" or "the camera turns away as the scene fades to black")