

The Act and Scene citation usually is centered on the first page of dialogue; some writers put it all the way to the left margin. An alternative to this is to note the act, scene and page number in the upper right hand corner, numerically. Act One, Scene One, Page One would read I-I-I, or Act Two, Scene One, Page 4 would read II-1-4.

Some writers capitalize the name of the character when he/she first appears.

Dialogue stretches from margin to margin. It is single spaced, or a space and a half, with a double space between two characters speaking.

When a character takes an emotional action, such as "angrily" or "with intensity," it is placed below the character name and indented to the left.

When a character speech is interrupted at the bottom of a page, note "more" or "cont." at the bottom of the page, and then at the top of the next page, type the character's name and "(cont.)" beside it.

ACT ONE
Scene 1

your pages!
1.

AT RISE: Lights brighten on the interior of DR. JAMESON's office. DAVID sits reading the latest copy of *Time* magazine. He turns a page, sighs, turns another, sighs again and finally throws the magazine to the coffee table. He stands and begins pacing the room.

DR. JAMESON enters and extends an open hand toward David.

DR. JAMESON

David? I'm Dr. Jameson. Sorry about the wait. Friday's are always a crunch day for me. Too many people in too short of time.

DAVID

So business is really booming, huh?

DR. JAMESON

I guess you could look at that way.

Dr. Jameson walks toward his office door and motions David inside.

DR. JAMESON (cont.)

Won't you come in?

DAVID

(angrily)

Not just yet, okay?

DR. JAMESON

Alright . . . well, why don't you get comfortable and then . . .

DAVID

Don't rush me, man! You're trying to rush me. All psychiatrists try to rush me. I'm on to you. I'm on to everybody! Everyone thinks I'm stupid or something.

DR. JAMESON

I don't. I don't think you're stupid. As I said on the phone . . .

DAVID

Don't preach to me, man! I don't need your words. Words mean nothing to me! NOTHING! Don't

(more)

Frame the text in a one -inch margin all around the parameter of the page. Some writers increase the left margin to one and one-half inches to account for binding. Text is in 12 point font.

An alternative to this is to note TIME: PLACE: These are only the directions we need to know to start the scene, i.e., what's going on at the beginning of the play.

The character's name is in all caps and centered.

These internal stage directions, or action, can appear here, or justified right and italicized.

When the same character continues speaking after an action, note "cont." by his/her name.

Sample Format Page