Script Writing

Program: You will be working with a program called "Screenwriter". It will be in the Applications folder in a folder called "Movie Magic Screenwriter". You may want to put the program on your dock so you can access it when needed. The program requires a CD to be put into the CD tray of your computer. We have license for 4 to be used at anyone moment so only 4 may be going at once. To get the CD take your class ID card to Sheri and check out the CD.

Screenwriter: The program is designed to be able to write up a script for use in a play or movie type use. The program is similar a Word Processor, but has some major differances. It will involve setting up various parts of a script. The most common of those are: Acts, Scenes, Actions, Dialogue. The purpose of this tutorial is to guide you in your creation of your script.

Starting off: Make sure the CD is in the CD tray and start the program in the Applications folder. The first time you start it, it will need to have a serial number entered in. Ask your teacher for a serial number. After you have entered the serial number once, you shouldn't need to enter it again.

Samples: There are samples of scripts in the "Movie Magic Screewriter" folder. Probably the best to look at for your script would be the "Sitcom" ones, especially "Sitcom1". You may even use one to create your script with.

Labels: As you'll see in this program, the main use is to be able to label things in your script. Below is a list of labels that I definitely want you to use. The others are optional.

Title- Type in the Title and the author/s of the movie. If you are working in a group make sure you include each person in your group. To add the title do the following:

1. Click on the drop down menu that looks like Fig. #1.
2. Mouse down to Title and click on it. See Fig. #2.
3. Type in the title and author/s like this- "The Tutorial" Author- Mr. R. It should be centered on the page.

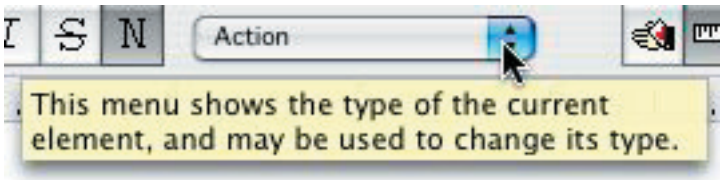

Fig. #1 Labels

Scenes- each time you change an area where your filming you will need to make a new scene. To create a scene go to the "Scene Information" that you see in Fig. #2 and click on it. It will give you a number in word form. Example: one. You can type in Scene if you want.

Actions- Each time there will be a new action in the scene you will need to note it in your script. Example: Helmer turns from Nora.

Transistion- These will be shots that you will use to go to new shots within the same scene. Example: Cut to:

Shot: Usually used with the Transition to indicate what the new shot will be of.

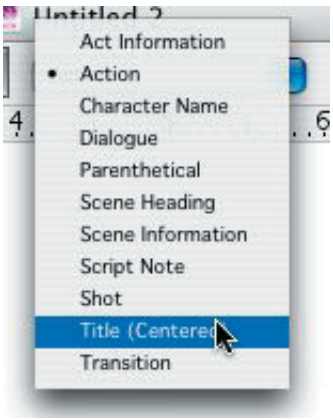

Fig. #2 Title

Character Name: each time a different character is doing an action or dialogue you will need to indicate which character it is. When you click on Character Name a small window will appear with the names of characters previously used. If it is a new character then type in the name of the new character. If it is one that you have previously used then click on that character's name.

Assignment: You/your group are to make a script for your story that you created. Make sure you include the 6 labels that I want you to have. If you wish to label some of the other things you may do so. Print out the script for each member of your group and turn it in your Assignment folder into the Turn in Tray.

Point Value: 20 pts.