

Original One-Act Script Rubric

School: _____ Play: _____

Student Author(s): _____

Drama

Does the play succeed as a piece of drama (regardless of genre)? Does it contain clear conflict, dramatic action, and suspense? Is the plot effective in the amount of time allotted to it? Are scenes of exposition, conflict, climax and resolution handled skillfully by the writer? Does the play avoid cliché?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Dramatically ineffective		Occasionally effective		Generally effective; good skill in writing		Very effective; skilled writing throughout		Compelling; highly skilled writing	

Character

Are the characters interesting and believable in the writing? Do they have concrete goals which are strongly pursued? Are actions consistent with character? Does the writer provide detailed character traits, wants, etc., which are useful to actors in their portrayals? Do the characters as written seem highly individualized, as opposed to stereotyped?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Shallow, uninvolved characters		Some characters developed & motivated		Most characters believable & active		Characters detailed, involving, motivated		Characters compelling, dynamic, & complex	

Language

Is the writer's use of language appropriate to character, situation, & development of relationships? Is the dialogue speakable not just readable — does it aid the actors rather than hinder them? Is the language active & colorful — does it maintain interest, come alive in the space, & propel the play forward? Is the writing economical? Does the play sound more alive than “written”?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Dull, flat language		Some good writing, but sounds “written”		Language usually appropriate; dialogue often colorful & alive		Interesting, believable language throughout; dialogue consistently strong		Striking use of language; dialogue is dynamic and/or sparkling	

Theatricality

Does play create a theatrical experience, rather than a staged story? Does it show more than tell? Does writer explore possibilities of stage and/or work well within its limitations? Does play work on an imaginative as well as literal level?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Lacks Theatricality		Some theatricality		Many interesting moments		Involving throughout		Highly Imaginative theatre	

Total Effect

What is overall effect, essence, distinctive impression, condition actualized of complete piece? What is effect of charisma, sparkle, magic? Did play hold audience's interest to the end? Did it compare favorably with non-original production?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Little effect		Some effect		Good effect		Strong effect		Magic	

Total points: _____

Sensitive/Mature Content: Yes / No

Respondent Name _____ Track _____ Shift _____

Day _____ Time _____ a.m. / p.m.