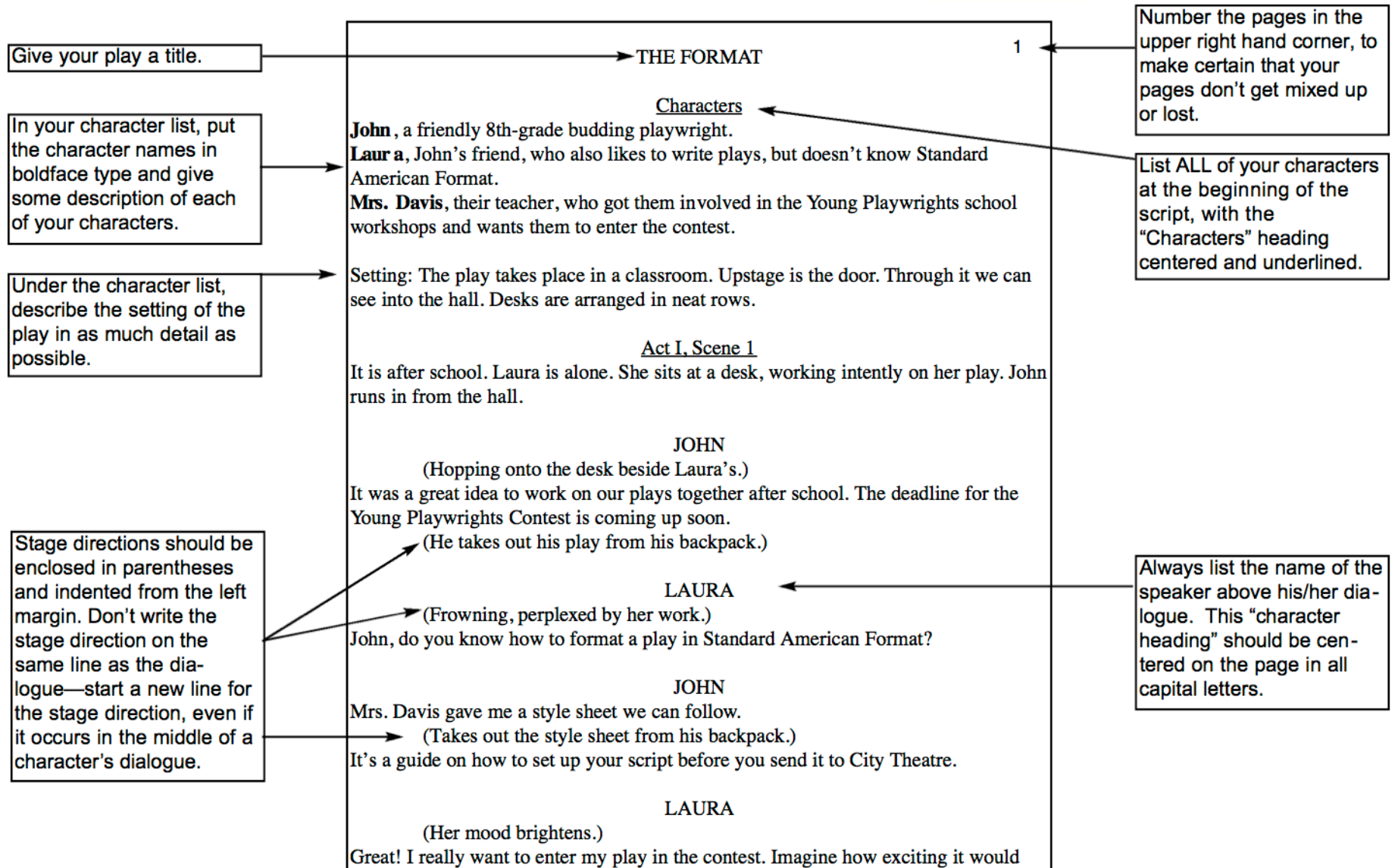


STYLE SHEET: "STANDARD AMERICAN FORMAT"

Please use the following guide to make sure your script is in **STANDARD AMERICAN FORMAT** before you send it. Scripts must be typed, on one side of the page only, and bound in the upper left hand corner with a single staple.



The beginning of a new scene should be marked, with "Act" and "scene" headings centered and underlined. Act numbers are indicated by Roman numerals (I, II, III, etc.); scene numbers by Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.).

Unlike the character heading (the name above the dialogue), the dialogue itself should NOT be centered. It should be aligned with the left margin of the page.

If stage directions continue for more than one line, remember to indent the entire stage direction.

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be to have your play selected for production by the professionals at City Theatre!
(John and Laura settle down to work on their plays.)

Act I, Scene 2

It is the next morning, before school has started. Mrs. Davis is in the classroom looking over her lesson plans in preparation for the school day. Laura and John enter.

LAURA

Mrs. Davis, I'm so glad you copied the Standard American Format style sheet for John. I was able to finish my play last night and it's all ready to send to City Theatre.
(She proudly shows her completed play to Mrs. Davis.)

JOHN

And mine should be done by the weekend!

MRS. DAVIS

If either of you receive a City Theatre production, we'll organize a field trip for the other 8th-graders to see your play performed!

LAURA

Even if we don't win, a trip to see the winning plays would be fun, especially since we had a City Theatre workshop leader teach us playwriting in school this year.

JOHN

I hope you've signed our school up for playwriting workshops again next year, Mrs. Davis. I already have a new idea for a play, and I liked hearing my friends' plays.

MRS. DAVIS

(Laughs.)
Well, you don't need to wait until next year to write your new play! But City Theatre Young Playwrights will be back in our school next year—I've already signed us up.
{ (John and Laura start to express their excited approval but are cut off by the bell. They exit, running off to class.)

Give a brief description under the Act/Scene heading of anything a reader needs to know, as your scene begins, to be able to picture the scene in his mind.

Make it easy for your reader to read your script. Make sure to double-space between one character's dialogue and the next, and after such things as the character list and the Act/scene headings (or the scene description that follows the Act/scene heading).

But within a single character's name heading, dialogue, and stage directions, the lines should be single-spaced.

A couple other tips: Type your script—do not hand-write it. Leave margins of at least one inch all around your pages. Type on one side of the paper only. And ALWAYS double-check for spelling and other errors, and ask someone else (such as your teacher or a parent) to proofread your work for you, too.