

Fade In
The very first item on the first page should be these words

FADE IN:

Scene Heading
A one line description of the location and time of day of a scene

EXT. WRITERS STORE - DAY
In the heart of West Los Angeles, a boutique shop's large OPEN sign glows like a beacon.

Character's First Appearance
A description of the character. name should be CAPPED

INT. WRITERS STORE - SALES FLOOR - DAY
Writers browse the many scripts in the screenplay section.

Character
A character's name always appears above his dialogue

ANTHONY
hey, how's everyone doin' here?

A WRITING ENTHUSIAST, 45, reads the first page of "The Aviator" by John Logan.

ENTHUSIAST
Can John Logan write a killer first page or what?

ANTHONY
You, sir, are a gentleman of refined taste. John Logan is my non-Canadian idol.

Subheader
For when a full scene heading is not necessary

THE SALES COUNTER
And answers the phone.

ANTHONY
Writers Store, Anthony speaking.

VOICE
(over phone)
Do you have "Chinatown" in stock?

Paranetical
Action or attitude direction for a character

I/E LUXURIOUS MALIBU MANSION - DAY
A FIGURE roams his estate, cell phone pressed to his ear.

ANTHONY (O.S.)
'Course we have "Chinatown"! Robert Towne's masterpiece is arguably the Great American Screenplay...
(MORE)

Extension
A note placed after the character's name to indicate how the voice will be heard onscreen

Mores and Continueds:
Use mores and continueds between pages to indicate the same character is still speaking.

ANTHONY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
I mean, that or "Shawshank Redemption" or "Network" or "American Beauty"... Yes, we do have "Chinatown".

Intercut:
Instructions for a series of quick cuts between two scene locations

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION
FIGURE
That is such great news. I've been

2.
Page Number
Located 0.5' from the top, flush right

Transition
Film editing instructions

DISSOLVE TO:

Action
The narrative description of the events of a scene

Dialogue
Lines of speech for each character

Directors' storyline/notes

#1 A frontal long shot of a man "A".
The man "A" is walking toward the camera.

#2 A frontal Med. low angle shot of a man "B". A man who wears a nice suit is standing in front of a car.

#3 A POV of the man "B". A frontal Med. eye level shot of the man "A".

#4 A O.T.S. of the man "A". A frontal long shot of the man "B".

#5 Shot on a c/u of the man "B". As he turns his head camera PAN right a little. End shot a c/u of the man "B".

#6 A frontal Med. shot of the signal light. light changes from green to red.

Storyboard/editor's notes

NAME



BRAINSTORM IDEAS for a final script, film production and editing techniques.

Script

storyboard