



Freelance Game Writer – Job Application – Writing Test

Instructions:

- You will find basic outlines for 3 different scenes between two characters below. Included are overviews of the background, including the characters, their relationship, and the genre/setting of the “story” they are from.
- Please pick 1 test that interests you the most and write a scene based off the information provided. The word limit starts at a **minimum of 800 words**.
- You are free to submit more than 1 test, but you must at least submit 1 with your application.
- Feel free to get creative and surpass 800 words as long as you stay within the realm of the scene outline provided. “Minor NPC/Extras” characters are permitted to be included but the scene must center around the two, specified main characters.
- ***Important: You are required to write your test piece following the writing format in the sample found at the bottom of this document. This writing style mirrors the formatting style expected for the major deliverables for this position.***
- ***Please also include your total word count at the top of the first page along with your name, email and pen name, if applicable.***

Tips:

- If you are unfamiliar with the screenplay style formatting, write the scene out in your own preferred literary style. After you are satisfied with your piece, do your best to convert it to the specified format.
- If you wish, you may attach both a screenplay formatted piece, as well as a piece written in your native style in your final submission.
- And most importantly, have fun!



Writing Test

Test 1 – “Wedding Night Woes” (Adventure/Romance)

- **Story Background:** After running away the night before her arranged marriage, Scarlett disguises herself as a man in order to sneak aboard a passenger ship heading out for the next continent over. However, her hopes for a new life are dashed as shortly after departing, the ship is attacked and overtaken by another ship. In the midst of the chaos, Scarlett hides in a barrel, but is rendered unconscious when she accidentally hits her head.
- **Scene Summary:** As she wakes up and peeks out of the barrel, Scarlett no longer finds herself on board a dingy, smelly and crowded passenger ship, but aboard a glamorous and impregnable imperial convoy. Her eyes widen and her blood runs cold when she catches sight of the captain of the ship ordering his men to check the contents of each barrel, including the one she’s currently hiding in. However, that’s not her biggest concern.

Next to the captain stands Valtice, the handsome tyrant king of a neighboring kingdom... and the man she was supposed to be marrying today.

- **Story keywords:** Pirates, enemies to lovers, slow burn
- **Story Setting:** In the golden age of the pirates, near a fictitious European kingdom

Test 2 – “Encounters In The Forest” (Fantasy/Romance)

- **Story Background:** After moving away from the city and into a lush, rural valley, Seraphina finds herself working at a local flower shop in her new town. Assigned with the task of foraging the forest to find a specific flower needed to complete an order, she arrives at a secluded forest lake and spots the flower she’s looking for growing along the edge of the water. As she carefully picks the flowers she needs, she notices ripples flowing towards her. Turning her gaze upward, she spots a large, majestic buck drinking from the lake across the way from her. Her breath is taken away as she stares at the beautiful creature, watching as vines and flowers seem to sprout forth from his horns.
- **Scene Summary:** A few days later, she returns to the forest hoping to catch sight of the beautiful animal again, but she has no luck. Deciding the weather is too pleasant to ignore, she decides to take a nap under a large oak tree. When she awakens, she finds the majestic buck standing in front of her.

After warming him up to her by coaxing him with a snack she brought, she manages to get close enough to pet him. As she strokes his fur, a bright light envelops the animal and he transforms into a beautiful man right before her eyes. The mysterious man wears a knowing, patient smile, and introduces himself as “Eden, The Lord of the Land”.

- **Story keywords:** Fantasy, spirits and fairies, magical, shapeshifting
- **Story Setting:** In the modern era, inside of a mystical forest in a rural valley

Test 3 – “Taxi Troubles” (Comedy/Romance)

- **Story Background:** Julie, a budding journalist, is having a hard time finding a decent job after graduation. After a whole day of failed job interviews, she’s trudging back to her apartment when a torrential downpour seems to start out of nowhere. Cursing her luck, all she can do is run down the street in her heels while getting soaked to the bone. After a few minutes, she manages to spot a taxi nearby and without a second thought, she hops inside to seek shelter from the rain. As she looks up, she meets the eyes of a perplexed taxi driver and realizes another passenger already has the back seat occupied. The passenger, an attractive businessman named Maverick, raises an eyebrow at her and informs her this cab is already taken.
- **Scene Summary:** Julie apologizes for intruding, but just as she’s about to leave, a loud clap of thunder rings out. Scared of lightning, she sheepishly turns around and flashes him an apologetic smile. “Sorry, but can we share?” The man sighs as he glances back at his paperwork. “Do as you wish.” Despite looking quite attractive, he doesn’t come off as the friendly type.

After a few minutes, Julie’s eyes light up when she realizes they’ll be approaching the front of her apartment just a short distance away. Relief courses through her at the thought of finally getting home and bringing an end to this long day... However, in one swift movement, the man next to her hands the taxi driver an address that’s on the opposite side of town, insisting he’s in a hurry and can’t afford any further delays.

- **Story keywords:** Comedy, opposites attract, witty arguments, office romance
- **Story Setting:** In the late 1980s, on a fictitious street in San Francisco

Writing Format Sample

Attached is a sample script to be followed as a template for the writing format for this test.

- **Point of View: First Person / Font: Courier, 12 Point Size**
- **Scene Heading Label = [States the background/where the scene is taking place]**
- **Speaker Label = [States the speaker who is currently talking]**
- **Dialogue Label = [Used for lines of dialogue only; under applicable speaker]**
- **Action Label = [Used for narrative, action text or anything that isn't dialogue]**
- **Tag Label = [Used for speaking tags. Are they thinking, screaming, whispering, etc?]**

PROLOGUE 'LOVE SPELL: WRITTEN IN THE STARS'

MORNING - TOWN STREET *Scene Heading Label*

The sun's early rays peek out over the hills of Pastoria town, a small sub-urban gem nestled between the mountain and the sea. As light paints streaks of pastel across the sky, it signals the start of a brand new day. *Action Text*

I can't help but stifle a loud yawn as I close the door to my apartment and head out on my morning commute.

MC *Speaker Label*

Ugh...I stayed up last night reading too many manga. Class is gonna be so killer today...

My thoughts linger to the heart-wrenching romantic adventure that kept me up all night yesterday as I start my journey to the town's local university.

MC

(thinking) *Tag Label*

Seriously though, what was that cliffhanger? After she just confessed her love to him too! I need to know what happens or I won't be able to move on with my life!

Dialogue Label

As I walk through my usual commute, I retrace steps that I've taken many times before, but it all seems a bit different than usual today under the morning sun's glow. Heart-shaped decorations and advertisements for couples seem to have sprouted overnight outside many shops and streets, signaling the coming of one of the town's local festivals. My eyes follow various couples walking hand in hand, sharing coffee, looks and stifled giggles.

Writing Format – Sample Scene

MC

WATCH OUT!

With a desperate lunge, I run and forcefully pull the old lady backwards, narrowly avoiding a collision as the speeding car angrily honks while driving by. I let out a shaky breath as I help steady the old lady and bend down to pick up her bag.

MC

(worried)

Ma'am, are you okay? Didn't you see the light change-

I look up to the old lady's face to see her grinning from ear to ear.

WITCH

Heeheehee, strong and fair.
Righteous and true. Why, I've been so lucky, to meet a girl like you.

MC

(confused)

H-huh?

WITCH

Heeheehee, I'm quite alright thanks to you, my dearie. Thank you for saving me.

MC

O-of course! I couldn't just stand by and watch as you got hurt.

WITCH

Heeheehee, what a BENEVOLENT young child! Good to see that today's youth still has some hope left.

MC

R-right...err, thanks?

(pauses)

Oh! Here you go. You dropped this earlier.

I hand over both the oddly decorated bag and the odd trinket from before.

WITCH

(happy)

Oh goodness, me! Why thank you, dearie! I don't know what would

(MORE)

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