

Format Sample of a Drama Series Script for the Internship Competition

This is a sample of a drama series script, posted here to demonstrate the preferred format for all drama scripts submitted in the television scriptwriting category of the internship competition. This example is for formatting purposes only. For legal reasons, we are unable to post newer samples. Students entering the internship competition should submit original writing samples from series that are currently on one of the networks' primetime schedules or are airing in first-run syndication. All scripts should be in Courier 12-point type face only. For the purposes of the competition, please put your name at the top of every page.

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

"The Legacy of Cweartern"

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE IN ORBIT (OPTICAL)

Our starship circles a brown, barren world.

PICARD (V.O.)

Captain's log, stardate 42538.8.
Routine system charting and
exploration in Sector C543 has
yielded an unusual finding on the
lifeless fourth planet orbiting a
type-G star named Cweartern...

INT. RUINS ON CWEARTERN IV - RIKER, GEORDI, DATA

stepping carefully through the time-worn remains of an
official-looking building.

They approach an incongruously unbattered MACHINE - a black
platform with dials, buttons and LCDs. Above the platform
is a faint, cylindrical SHIMMERING EFFECT (OPTICAL).

PICARD (V.O. CONT'D)

... The artificial power source of unknown origin displays physical properties unseen before in a device of its size...

Data and Geordi hold ANTI-GRAVs affixed to the machine, which floats in the air between them.

REVERSE ANGLE THROUGH THE SHIMMER (OPTICAL) - RIKER

signaling the ship. The group disappears in the TRANSPORTER EFFECT.

PICARD (V.O. CONT'D)

... On the Away Team's recommendation, we are bringing the alien machine on board for further study by experts in our astrophysics and xenology labs...

INT. ENTERPRISE MAIN BRIDGE - PICARD

PICARD (CONT'D)

... We are about to proceed to Sackett's Star Cluster for a scheduled check on the new colony in that distant system.

WIDER ANGLE

revealing bridge crew (sans Wesley) busy at work. Picard taps off the log and turns to his first officer.

PICARD

All stations ready?

RIKER

Yes sir. Course plotted and on the board. Ready for warp 3 to the Cluster.

PICARD

ETA at that speed?