

Scene Analysis Guidelines

Given Circumstances, Physical Actions, and Targets

Use your script (for scoring), the character notes worksheet, and a separate piece of paper for additional notes:

Step 1) **Character Analysis / Given Circumstances.**

- a. List all the facts you find about your character.
- b. List all the suppositions you make about your character based on:
 - what you say about yourself
 - what other characters say about you
 - actions/behaviors
 - missing information that needs to be answered (use the facts as your guide)
 - relationships
- c. Identify the Given Circumstances for the scene (external and internal) -
 - Who** – are you talking to? What is the nature of this relationship? Status?
 - What** – what has just happened prior to the scene? What information and/or expectation is your character bringing into the scene? What is the urgency of the scene or is there any?
 - Where** – Where does the scene take place? Consider territory, public/private, familiarity, indoor/outdoor.
 - When** – What time is it? How much time do you have? What season is it? What is the weather like? Climate?
 - How** – how are you feeling? Emotional state? Physical state?
- d. List any Given Circumstances (social, political, historical) for the play and the which influence your character and the scene you are in.

Step 2) **Central Event**

From your character's perspective, what is the central event of this scene? What happens? What decision, discovery or reversal occurs? What is the key to the scene, the most important line? What will your character do next?

Step 3) **Scoring** (Beat Work)

Beats, Targets/Verbs, Climax, Blocking, etc.