

## Creating a script

This activity will help you in preparing to create a script by focusing on key elements of an existing film.

This activity will involve watching from 03:08 to 05:11 of DON'T KNOCK TWICE (2016).

Firstly, watch the clip through and pay attention to the narrative and how character is developed; focus on dialogue and action. Secondly, list the action and dialogue below. Some pointers have been added below to help and remind you of what is required but has been added in way that allows you to write over it.

- **Action:**

The Action sets the scene, describes the setting, and allows you to introduce your characters and set the stage for your story. Ensure that you write in the present tense. Some exceptions may be made in some instances, but even scenes like flashbacks need to be written in the present tense. Also make sure that you write in the active voice (a door slammed shut) and not the passive voice (a door is slammed shut).

In the case of this clip, consider what we are shown on screen and how it is presented. Also think about the specifics of what people do in terms of body language and facial expression and consider what it suggests to the audience. The clip is very tense and there's clearly a lot of baggage and history between the two main characters, try to communicate and imply this through the action.

- **Dialogue:**

Dialogue is a generic term name given for when anyone on screen speaks. Technically, a "dialogue" should involve two people talking whereas "monologue" is the term for one person talking. For the purposes of this guide, dialogue will refer to a conversation between characters, when a character talks out loud to him/herself and also when a character is off-screen and only a voice is heard. This should not be confused with a voice over.

For this clip, try to pay attention not just to what people say, but how they say it, what it suggests or implies and the pauses in the speech. The clip is intense, ensure that you follow the exact words that the characters say, but think carefully and pay attention to how you would have them say it.