

# TV COMEDY SCRIPTWRITING

The First Draft  
(Just Do It)

## WRITING SCENES

- First Scenes
- Scene Length
- Joining a scene in progress
- Entrances / Exits
- Montage Sequence
  - *string of short scenes*
- Pacing
- Keep visual humor to a minimum
- End with a button
  - *clever line or small dramatic twist located at very end of scene*

## SCENE DESCRIPTIONS

- Present time
- Paint the picture
- Avoid "We"
- Grammar / Punctuation
- No Camera directions
- Choreographing Action
- No Maps, Pictures
- Indicating Pause
  - [Pause], [Beat]
- Indicating reaction

## WRITING DIALOGUE

- Speech patterns
- Vocabulary
- Pronunciation

## WRITING DIALOGUE

- Emotions affect speech
  - Arguing
  - Depressed
  - Happy
  - Fearful
  - Anxious

## WRITING DIALOGUE

- Comedic Nuances
  - Nervous Babbling
  - Understated response
  - Exaggerated response
  - Answers questions with questions
- Spaceshot POV
  - Irony
  - Double entendre
  - Catch phrases

## MISCELLANEOUS TIPS

- Speech Length
- Dialogue Cues
- Overusing Names
- Offensive Language
- Signature Lines

## ASSIGNMENTS

- Organize Studio
- Complete Missing Work
  - MoneySkills 1 and 2
  - Field Trip Reflection
- Complete Open House Video