



Tips for writing a podcast drama

Writing a play for a podcast can be a little bit different to writing one to be performed on stage. Here are some tips to get you started...

- As the people listening won't be able to see what your characters look or act like, think about other ways to communicate your character's personality through the script.
- Accents or different sounding voices are a good way to make sure that the people listening know who is who. If your characters sound too similar to each other, it could be confusing.
- In a podcast drama, sound effects can be used to bring your script to life. These could be background noises to tell us more about the location (e.g. the sound of train station) or more specific to the action and what's happening to the characters (the sound of someone falling into water).
 - Silence and pauses in the dialogue can be a useful way to create suspense and drama. If you want to use these in your play, make sure you add them as notes, so the actor reading knows what to do.
 - A little background music can help set the tone and emotion. If the characters are at a party you could use something upbeat, but for a funeral you may choose something entirely different. Music can also be a useful way of communicating the location or changing from one scene to the next.
- When you have written your play, it's always a good idea to test it out. Why not ask your friends or family to read the play out loud to hear what it sounds like? Or alternatively you could read it and ask others to listen.