



VIDEO SCRIPT

Video: Setting The Stage

*Setting
(overview)*



Scene	Full Transcript
1	<p>Ava: Hey there!</p> <p>Kimberly: Hey, Ava! What are you doing here?</p> <p>Ava: I came to see how your set construction is coming along. Um, I think you're needed.</p>
2	<p>Extra 1: Kimberly, what do you think of this sketch for scene three?</p> <p>Extra 2: Will this color work?</p> <p>Extra 3: Where am I supposed to put this tree?</p>
3	<p>Kimberly: Everything looks great, guys. The tree is for the park scene. Set it stage right. Keep up the good work!</p>
4	<p>Kimberly: Sorry!</p> <p>Ava: It's all right. Looks like there are a lot of decisions that go into being a set designer.</p> <p>Kimberly: You can say that again.</p> <p>Ava: You know, I'm thinking about writing a play myself.</p> <p>Kimberly: Really?</p>
5	<p>Ava: Yeah. I just signed up for the writer's workshop that Turner suggested, and I really want to have something ready for the first class.</p>
6	<p>Kimberly: That's great! What's your play going to be about?</p>
7	<p>Ava: Well, that's actually why I'm here. I'm not sure where to start.</p> <p>Kimberly: Maybe I can help. I attended the same writer's workshop. One of the first things I did to get started on my story was choose a setting. The workshop has a great website that provides a variety of settings to get you thinking. Participants of the workshop post regularly. It's a great place to share ideas and collaborate with others.</p> <p>Ava: It sounds like that website is just what I need to start writing my play! Can you show it to me?</p> <p>Kimberly: Sure!</p>
8	<p>Extras: Coming through!</p>
9	<p>Kimberly/Ava: Whod!</p>



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10	<p>Narrator: Hold that thought! Will Kimberly's website add more drama to Ava's play? Will Ava's setting choices light up the stage? Join the knowledge seekers as they raise the curtain on settings, in this episode of THINKING ALOUD!</p>
11	<p>Introduction</p>
12	<p>Narrator: While Kimberly and Ava work on the set and log onto the site, let's catch up on what Kimberly learned about settings in her writer's workshop.</p> <p>When an author chooses a setting for a story, it's more than just telling the readers where the characters live. The setting, that is, the location and time period in which the story occurs, becomes the backbone of the entire piece. It can unify a story with many subplots, viewpoints, or themes. It can also change throughout the story as characters travel on a journey or face obstacles to confront. Changes in the setting can move the plot forward, such as when an author forces the main character to move from a high rise apartment in the city to a cottage in the quiet countryside.</p> <p>The place, or geographical location, establishes where the story will unfold. It can take the form of general locations like cities, states, or countries. However, authors may describe more specific places such as the Neuschwanstein Castle, Lincoln School playground, Mt. Everest, or Mr. Muscle Gym.</p> <p>The time period is another important consideration for the author. Time may be divided into past, present, and future and while the century, decade, year, and even day of the week are critical, specific times such as a summer vacation, lunch break, wedding day, trip to the dentist, or first birthday create a unique and interesting setting.</p> <p>Similar to place and time, the selection and portrayal of the social conditions impact the authenticity and credibility of the setting. Called the context or milieu, each location and time period has its own culture that influences the characters in the story. The speech, dress, mannerisms, and customs are part of the culture that makes up the daily life of the characters. Setting impacts the way the characters talk - their language or dialect; their viewpoints and expectations, their actions, and even the way they travel depend on where and when the story takes place. For example, if the story is set in the middle of Alaska, you probably won't read about a sun-tanned surfer as the main character. Or consider how the lifestyle of a Native American family living in the 1700s would be drastically different compared to that of today's Hollywood celebrities.</p> <p>The setting also influences the mood of a story. Weather conditions are often used to enhance the mood. A scary story may take place on a dark and stormy night. Or a light-hearted tale could be set on a sunny day in a beautiful meadow. Either way, the atmosphere of the story is impacted by the choice of setting.</p>



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12 (continued)	<p>Narrator: Skillful authors realize that it's important to accurately recreate the setting for their stories. They conduct extensive research to ensure that every detail, from climate and buildings to animals and plants, are consistent with the actual setting. Readers who have been there know the difference and expect the author to get it right! When an author is successful, readers feel as though they are inside the story, experiencing every plot twist right alongside the main characters.</p>
13	<p>Kimberly: Let's go with the tie-dye. Uh, they didn't have cordless phones back in the sixties, so let's go with this one.</p> <p>Ava: That's really interesting. I can't wait to get to that point in my play.</p> <p>Kimberly: Selecting stage props that are appropriate for the time period are important for creating a realistic setting.</p> <p>Ava: Let's look at the workshop's website.</p>
14	<p>Kimberly: It's easy to use. It is divided into past, present, and future time periods and includes a variety of locations.</p> <p>Ava: Wow! <i>World of Dinosaurs. On the Ski Slopes. The Year 3030!</i></p>
15	<p>Kimberly: Just select the one you're interested in.</p> <p>Ava: Oh, I don't know. How about...</p>
16	<p>Narrator Ava will have to hold that thought until you help her consider various setting choices when you view the next video. Join Ava and experience the different ways authors describe the settings in their stories.</p> <p>Travel back into time to <i>The Land of the Pharaohs</i> to dig up how authors use weather, geography, everyday life, social conditions, and mood to describe settings.</p> <p>Catch the subway downtown to <i>The Beat of the Street</i> to visit New York's Times Square to see how authors help readers visualize settings through sensory words.</p> <p>Dive into <i>The Deep, Deep World</i> to visit how authors spark the readers' imaginations by creating fantastic and futuristic worlds.</p> <p>Don't delay, view all three to set off on setting and remember to keep Thinking Aloud!</p>