

STRUCTURE TEMPLATES

Sequences (Blake Snyder Hybrid)

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This template should only be used as a guide to help you build the bones of your story, and is not meant as a formula for success. Every screenplay is unique and requires a slightly different approach, but using this template can make planning your story a far less painful process. The first thing you might notice is that there are 6 scenes beneath each sequence. Since most screenplays contain between 40 and 60 scenes in total, 6 scenes (for a total of 48) represents the industry average. It is still an arbitrary number, and you may find you need as few as 4 scenes or as many as 8 scenes per sequence.

ACT I

Sequence 1

Opening Image (1):

Theme Stated (5):

Set-Up (1-10):

Catalyst (12):

Sequence 2

Debate (12-25):

Break into Two (25):

ACT IIA

Sequence 3

B Story (30):

Fun and Games (30-55):

Sequence 4

Fun and Games (30-55):

Midpoint (55):

Act IIB

Sequence 5

Bad Guys Close In (55-75):

Sequence 6

Bad Guys Close In (55-75):

All is Lost (75):

Dark Night of the Soul (75-85):

Break into Three (85):

ACT III

Sequence 7

Finale (85-110):

Sequence 8

Finale (85-110):

Final Image (110):

Note: Remember that each sequence should have a beginning, a middle, and an end just as if it were a short film or a miniature version of the larger story. Establish a mini-tension or lesser goal that sheds light on or helps to solve the main tension or greater goal.