

Excerpt from “Toy Story” by Disney/Pixar.

Below is a sample submission for students in grades K-5. The formatting is simplified from a Hollywood-standard screenplay format, and looks like a stage play script that students may be more familiar with. Pens to Lens will accept all readable submissions from students in grades K-5. When formatting your script, please try to follow these simple rules to ensure that your script is readable.

1. When you change setting, include a line that says what your new setting is. The setting can include place and time.
 - a. Example: **Setting: Crane Game**
2. Write all character names in CAPITAL letters. If your character has no name, call them by their job, or what they look like. If you use the same description twice, give them numbers.
 - a. Example: **ALIEN #1**
3. Put a blank line before and after any character has a line of dialogue.
4. Remember, film is a visual art. Only write enough so that the Director knows what action to show on screen. Your goal is to be as clear and short as possible.

You may find it valuable to compare these written words to the final scene in the “Toy Story” film. You can find the scene in the “Toy Story” DVD or online.

Follow this Sample:

Setting: Crane Game

Woody clammers up the side of the deposit slot.

BUZZ (off screen): This is an intergalactic emergency! I need to commandeer your vessel to Sector 12!

Woody peeks over the partition to witness Buzz surround by the cute alien toys.

BUZZ (continued; to the aliens): Who's in charge here?

All the aliens point upward.

ALIENS: The cla-a-a-a-a-a-a-w!!

Woody and Buzz look up. The crane dangles directly above the toys.

ALIEN #1: The claw is our master.

ALIEN #2: The claw chooses who will go and who will stay.

WOODY (to himself): This is ludicrous.

SID (off screen): (laughter)

Woody GASPS at the recognition of Sid's voice. He turns to see Sid heading straight for the crane game.

WOODY: Oh, no! Sid!!!

Woody leaps off the partition and tackles Buzz, pushing the two of them deep into the pile of aliens.

WOODY: Get down!!

Sid approaches the crane game and fishes quarters out of his pants pocket.

BUZZ (loud whisper): What's gotten into you, Sheriff? I was --

WOODY (loud whisper): YOU are the one that decided to climb into this --

ALIEN #4 (loud whisper): Sh-h-h-h-h-h. The claw. It moves.

The claw moves into position and hovers directly above the area where Woody and Buzz are hiding.

The crane drops and grabs hold of the alien toy that is right on top of Buzz.

ALIEN #3 (whispering excitedly): I have been chosen!!

Positioned with his back to Sid, the alien is lifted up by the claw.

ALIEN #3 (continued): Farewell, my friends! I go on to a better place.

THE END.