**Playwriting Assignment Description Sheet**

**Rough Draft Due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Final Draft Due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Write an 8-10 minute play.**

A good 8-10 minute play is not a sketch or an extended gag, but rather a complete, compact play, with a beginning, middle and end. You will be graded on three things:

1. Formatting (15 points):
   1. Length (8-10 minutes) – When I read the play aloud to myself, it should be within the time limit. I will use my brain and your stage directions to take appropriate pauses for action sequences or wordless parts of the scene. A helpful tip is that a play usually takes up about a minute per page when performed.
   2. Typed with Title and Author’s Name – The play needs to be typed. Let me know individually if this is not possible for you. The title of the play and the name of the author (your name) needs to be at the top of each page of your script. This is easily accomplished through a header.
   3. Consistency – However you format your play, it should look like a play. It should be clear to the reader who is talking. It should be easy to differentiate dialogue from stage directions. Most of all, BE CONSISTENT. If you decide you will write your character names like **THIS:**, write their names that way throughout the script. If your stage directions *(look like this)*, they should look that way throughout the script.
2. Plot Structure (15points):
   1. Plot Diagram – Your play should follow a clear plot structure. You must complete a detailed plot diagram of your play. You may draw your own diagram, print one online, or ask me for a blank one you can use.
3. Dialogue (15 points):
   1. You will be graded on the appropriate use of Exposition, Subtext, Logic, and how True to Life your dialogue feels. Use your Script Writing Tips worksheet as a reference.