**Plot Blueprint Guidelines**

Answering these questions will help you create your plan for building your play (recall we’re playwrights*,* not playwrites!) The more detail you put in to your blueprint, the more helpful it will be to you as you write the rest of your play. This is just a starting point: you can always go back and adjust details as your story develops!

**BUILDING MATERIALS**

1. **Who are the characters (names and relationships)?**
2. **What is the setting (time and place)?**
3. **What are the important objects/props?**
4. **What is the central conflict/Major Dramatic Question?**  
    *For example: Will the guy get the girl? Will Frodo destroy the ring in time to save the world?*

**TOOLS**

1. **What is this play’s tone?**  
    *Comedic? Dark/ominous? Wistful, like a memory?  
    Urgent, like an epic battle between good and evil?*
2. **What is/are this play’s theme(s)?**  
    *Example: The struggle for freedom, the experience of being misunderstood,   
    the battle against injustice, someone’s first real heartbreak.*
3. **What does the dialogue sound like?**  
    *Is the dialogue fast or slow, loud or quiet, witty or awkward?  
    Do the characters have accents or regional dialects?  
    Are the characters’ voices different, or similar? Why?*

**STRUCTURE**

1. **What is the essential exposition (facts the audience needs to know)?**
2. **What is the Point of Attack (The event that begins the action)?**
3. **What is the main character’s first action/response?**
4. **What are some complications the character encounters?**
5. **….and his/her responses to these complications?**
6. **What is the play’s climax?**
7. **What is the resolution?**