

Three Act Structure Template

Use the prompts to outline your own film. Add or remove sections to suit your project. The worked example follows the blank worksheet.

Project _____ Writer _____

Act 1 Setup

Who is the story about, what do they want, and what draws them into the main problem?

Act 2 Confrontation

How does the problem escalate, and what must the characters change or attempt?

Act 3 Resolution

What resolves the central conflict, and what is different afterwards?

Worked film example

Jurassic Park (1993)

Original Cineview diagram and broad act interpretation. Compare the detailed breakdown by StudioBinder; spoilers follow.

Act 1 — Setup The scientists visit the park and encounter its extraordinary promise.

Act 2 — Confrontation The park fails. The scattered visitors struggle to survive and reunite.

Act 3 — Resolution The group faces the raptors, survives and leaves the island.

How to use the worksheet

Establish the problem. Identify the character, goal, obstacle and incident that starts the story moving.

Develop the consequences. Write the major reversals and decisions. Keep the stakes clear as the character adapts.

Earn the resolution. Plan the decisive action and its outcome. Check that earlier scenes prepare the ending without making every beat predictable.

References

StudioBinder — Three act structure and Jurassic Park
<https://www.studiobinder.com/blog/three-act-structure/>

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