

SCRIPT TO

SCREEN

TE TARI TUHI KUPU A WHAKAAHUA

PAERANGI

VIDEO 4 – WRITING A SYNOPSIS OR EPISODE OUTLINES

HOMEWORK

Write a synopsis for *Ross and Beth*

- Describe the beginning, middle and end of the story as well as summarising the themes and the journey of the main character

Then, write a synopsis for your own concept

Decide whether the concept is best suited to a short film or a web series

- If it is a web series, you'll need to decide how many episodes it should be, and what the story and character arc is for each episode. Write a short paragraph summarising the story arc across all of the episodes and then an additional paragraph for each episode.
- If it is a short film, in one paragraph describe the beginning, middle and end of the story as well as summarising the themes and the journey of the main character.

WATCH LIST

[Auckland Love](#)

Web series, 2015-2017

[Season 1](#), 8 x 6-11mins

[Season 2](#), 8 x 12-15mins

[Season 3](#), 8 x 14-18mins

Writers – Jess Sayer, Holly Shervey, Emmett Skilton, Bryony Skillington, Jess Holly Bates, Andi Crown, Lucinda Hare
Director – Emmett Skilton
Producer – Emmett Skilton

[Vai](#)

Anthology feature film, 1hr30mins,
9 x short films

Rent for \$6.99 from NZ Film, Google Play or Youtube
Writer/Directors – Becs Arahanga, Amberley Jo Aumua, Matasila Freshwater, Dianna Fueamana, Miria George, Ofa Guttenbiel, Marina Alofagia McCartney, Nicole Whippy, Sharon Whippy
Producers – Kerry Warkia, Kiel McNaughton

DOWNLOADS

Auckland Love - Episode outline sample
Marina Alofagia McCartney's Video 4 notes

GLOSSARY

Beat – In poetry or music, a beat is a main accent or rhythmic unit. In film, a story beat is an event or action point that propels the story forward e.g. a moment of choice or dilemma for the main character. Emotional beats are where the character experiences an emotion that is important to the overall story and drives the story forward. A scene may be comprised of several beats. The word 'beat' is sometimes written in a script to indicate a pause. This should be used sparingly, but can be useful to emphasise an important moment in a scene.

Story arc / series arc – The story arc or narrative arc is the path of the overall story in a film or episode. A series arc is the path of the story across an entire series. The narrative arc concept was developed by novelist and playwright Gustav Freytag, and takes into account the concepts of beginning, middle and end, as well as rising action and falling action. When plotted in a diagram, a typical narrative arc forms the shape of a hill or pyramid.

Anthology film – A feature film made up of a series of short films, usually by different writers or directors, around a similar theme or set of characters.