SCRIPT FORMATTING

Fade In
The very first item on the first page should be these words

Scene Heading
A one line description of the location and time of day of a scene

Character's First Appearance
A description of the character; name should be CAPPED

Character
A character's name always appears above his dialogue

Subheader
For when a full scene heading is not necessary

Mores and Continueds:
Use mores and continueds between pages to indicate the same character is still speaking.

Intercut:
Instructions for a series of quick cuts between two scene locations

Action
The narrative description of the events of a scene

Transition
Film editing instructions

Dialogue
Lines of speech for each character

Parenthetical
Action or attitude direction for a character

Extension
A note placed after the character's name to indicate how the voice will be heard onscreen

Page Number
Located 0.5" from the top, flush right

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                                                    FADE IN:

EXT. WRITERS STORE - DAY

In the heart of West Los Angeles, a boutique shop's large
OPEN sign glows like a beacon.

                                                    DISSOLVE TO:

INT. WRITERS STORE - SALES FLOOR - DAY

Writers browse the many scripts in the screenplay section.

ANTHONY, Canadian-Italian Story Specialist extraordinaire,
30s and not getting any younger, ambles over.

                    ANTHONY
          Hey, how's everyone doin' here?

A WRITING ENTHUSIAST, 45, reads the first page of "The
Aviator" by John Logan.

                    ENTHUSIAST
          Can John Logan write a killer first
          page or what?

                    ANTHONY
          You, sir, are a gentleman of
          refined taste.  John Logan is my
          non-Canadian idol.

The phone RINGS.  Anthony goes to--

THE SALES COUNTER

And answers the phone.

                    ANTHONY
          Writers Store, Anthony speaking.

                    VOICE
              (over phone)
          Do you have "Chinatown" in stock?

I/E LUXURIOUS MALIBU MANSION - DAY

A FIGURE roams his estate, cell phone pressed to his ear.

                    ANTHONY (O.S.)
          'Course we have "Chinatown"!
          Robert Towne's masterpiece is
          arguably the Great American
          Screenplay...
                    (MORE)

                                                    2.

                    ANTHONY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
          I mean, that or "Shawshank
          Redemption" or "Network" or
          "American Beauty"...  Yes, we do
          have "Chinatown".

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION

                    FIGURE
          That is such great news.  I've been
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