

# #1 Comic Writing Basics: Story, Characters, and Ideas

## The Fundamentals of Comic Writing

### 1. What does a comic book writer actually do?

- **Creates the Blueprint:** A script is basically a manual for the artist. The writer decides what happens on each page and what the characters say.
- **Sets the Direction:** Without a script, the illustrator wouldn't know what to draw first. The script keeps the story organized.
- **Teamwork:** The writer and illustrator are one team. The writer describes the scene, and the illustrator brings it to life through art. 🙌 No jargon – the writer simply decides "what" happens, and the artist shows "how."

### 2. Inspiration is everywhere

- **Observe, Don't Just Copy:** Get inspired by books, movies, or comics you already love.
- **Watch Real Life:** Notice how people around you behave and react—those are often the best ideas.
- **Keep a Notebook:** Write your ideas down immediately. Your brain tends to forget them quickly.
- **Don't Wait for a Miracle:** You don't need a "perfect idea" to start. Just start writing anything, and the great ideas will show up while you work.

### 3. Basic story structure

- **Introduction:** Show us who your hero is and where the story takes place.
- **The Core:** This is where things get complicated. The hero faces a problem or a challenge they must solve.
- **Conclusion:** This is where everything is resolved. Show us how it all turned out. ➡
- **Tension:** A story needs a problem; otherwise, it's boring. ➡ **Movement:** The plot must keep moving forward—every page should bring something new.

### 4. Character creation

- **Motivation:** Every character must want something. Without a goal, they have no reason to move.
- **Obstacles:** Put something in their way that makes reaching their goal difficult. That's when it gets interesting.
- **Change:** A good character learns something or changes by the end of the story.
- **Friends and Foes:** Supporting characters help the hero grow or create the challenges they must face.

## 5. Final advice

- **Keep Refining:** A first draft is never perfect. Don't be afraid to rewrite and improve it.
- **Be the Reader:** Once you're done, read it as if you've never seen it before. Would it keep you interested?
- **Failure is Your Friend:** Don't worry if your first try isn't a masterpiece. Failure is the best teacher.

