

OUTLINING LAB – STEP #5 – HANDOUT #1 THE LANGUAGE OF AN OUTLINE

Examples of non-Useful Language in Outlines

Inside a Jail Cell. OJ has been arrested for two murders and he sits alone in a jail cell. His fame has gotten him nothing. He is a common criminal. He is famous, more famous than he could have dared, everyone knows his name, but for the wrong reasons. What has happened? He wants to talk to Nicole. He thinks he sees her, right there, in his jail cell. He's going to explain, tell her everything. And just as quickly he is alone.

Several months later at the same spot she saw Charles with her sister Sarah, Charles proposes to Diana. She accepts without a moment's hesitation. When Diana was young her mother fell in love with another man and her father, an Earl, got custody of the 4 children because of rank. Diana was not allowed to live with her mother, but as the wife of a future king, divorce was out of the question. She would be safe.

*The first two gay cave men accidentally discover farming. Instead of expending energy running and hunting, killing, skinning and butchering like their neighbors, the crazy inventive **BRINKLEY** and pragmatic **HUNTER** realize they can simply watch food grow, allowing development of the world's first pot belly. They set aside their continual bickering and celebrate.*

Example of Useful Language in Outline

SCENE 1: Paris in the 1950s. A deserted street at dusk. A little boy comes in, chasing his ball that rolled away. A strange Man, accompanied by a Woman, picks up the ball and returns it. He asks after the child's mother. Suddenly the Woman grabs the child, the man knocks out the child with a blow to the head and is about to slit his throat, when the Woman stops him, thinking she hears someone coming. They drag the child away.