



# SCREENWRITERS' LAB 2017

## DEFINITIONS

This document has been prepared as a guideline for filling out the application form. Please read the definitions carefully before submitting your application to ensure that your submission materials meet our requirements.

Please bear in mind that all applications must adhere to both the minimum and maximum word limits in order to be accepted.

Please also note that all submission material (including script and dialogue) are required to be written in English (dialogues included) even though the final film can be in any Indian language.

The submission requirements for the Screenwriters' Lab 2017 application are –

### 1. Logline (< 30 words)

A Log line is a short description that provides the WHO, WHAT and HOW of the story. Loglines are often published on websites or printed in programme guides.

For example –

*Titli* – In the badlands of Delhi's dystopic underbelly, Titli, the youngest member of a violent car-jacking brotherhood, plots a desperate bid to escape the 'family' business.

*Queen* – A Delhi girl from a traditional family sets out on a solo honeymoon after her marriage gets cancelled.

*Rang De Basanti* – The story of six young Indians who assist an Englishwoman to film a documentary on the extremist freedom fighters from their past, and the events that lead them to relive the long forgotten saga of freedom.

### 2. Short Synopsis (500 – 600 words)

The short synopsis outlines the plot and the major turning points of the story. It addresses the WHO, WHAT and HOW of the story while clearly describing the beginning, middle and end. One should also get a clear idea of who the protagonist(s) is, what journey he/she embarks on, and the resolution.

### 3. Writer's Statement (< 500 words)

A writer's statement is your personal connect with the script.

The following points are only to get you started. Do tell us anything else that you think will help us know the genesis of the project better.

- What is your personal connect in wanting to tell this story? Where does the story come from?
- Do you plan to direct the screenplay?
- If this is a resubmission of material we have considered previously, how has the material changed or transformed since we last read it?

### 4. Writer's Bio

A summary of your professional work that may include awards and recognition, educational qualifications and any other details that directly relate to screenwriting/filmmaking.

### 5. Past Work

Please make sure that the past work you submit informs us about you as a screenwriter.

#### **NOTE**

In addition to the above, you have the option to submit EITHER of the following –

1. Full Script

OR

2. Long Synopsis AND first 20 pages of your script [both uploads are mandatory if you choose this option]

#### **6. Full Script**

The script should be in English with dialogues also in English (not Roman Hindi) in industry accepted format.

**Eg:** Roman Hindi - "Jaise ki yeh jo likha hai maine" - **Not Accepted**  
English - "Like this, what I have written" - **Accepted**

While there are no strict limits to the number of pages of your script, a conventional script is between 90 - 120 pages.

#### **7. Long Synopsis**

The long story synopsis describes the emotional journey of the protagonist(s) – the inner conflicts of characters and what is at stake for them with a clear indication of the story's plot. The synopsis also gives a sense of the story's setting in time and space. Although the story synopsis will elaborate the plot which drives the story, giving a sense of the characters is equally important as it is the characters' key choices and actions that drive the plot.

The synopsis includes the decisions and actions the characters take in pursuit of their goals, the hurdles they face and what they do to overcome the barriers, whether they win or lose and where we leave them in the end. Revealing the end is crucial in a synopsis and the story should not end in three dots. The synopsis is the complete story, not just the premise that leaves readers curious about what happens next. The readers must be convinced that the end is a logical, dramatic outcome of all the events before. The aim of a well-written synopsis, then, should be to excite the readers about the possibility of the story as a film. Remember that story synopsis should not be based on what you want the story to be about. Instead tell the story as clearly as possible.

#### **8. First 20 pages of the Script**

Please make sure that you send us the first 20 pages of your script excluding the title page.  
This should be in English with dialogues also in English (not Roman Hindi) in industry accepted format.