

STORY

XP^RERIENTIAL

with PIXAR

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6	WEEK 7	WEEK 8/9
CONCEPT	CHARACTER	ART	OUTLINE	ACT 1	ACT 2	ACT 3	EDITING

Week 1: Monday, March 7th - Sunday, March 13th

- **Objective** → Brainstorm "What if..." ideas to spark ideas for your story

Assignment: Make a teaser of your own 3 favorite "what if" ideas + pair each sentence with one sketch or visual you find.

Key takeaways: We are all storytellers; "what if..." is an exercise that gets you out of your logic brain and into your imagination; telling stories takes a great deal of work and requires lots of iterations.

Week 2: Monday, March 14th - Sunday, March 20th

- **Objective** → Develop a Character Profile of your story's character

Assignment: Make a character profile using the sample template, record your script and pair with 1-2 drawings or visuals.

Key takeaways: How to create a character your audience cares about, who is your character internally vs externally, what are their wants vs needs, what obstacles, challenges and emotions do they experience; a character arc is the evolution your character goes through during the course of your story.

Week 3: Monday, March 21st - Sunday, March 27th

- **Objective** → Introduction to Visual Language: line, shape, tone, color, space, and motion

Assignment: Roughly sketch your character in a scene from the world of your story.

Key takeaways: Visual language are key elements that convey story points, communicating what you want your audience to pay attention to and feel. Drawing advice: be spontaneous, have fun and allow yourself to make mistakes.

Week 4: Monday, March 28th - Sunday, April 3rd

- **Objective** → Introduction to Story Spine and Major Beats

Assignment: Create an outline of your short story using a story spine as your guide. Draw or use a visual for each step in your story spine and turn it into a short video pitching your idea.

Key takeaways: Story structure is made up of major beats, or the most important moments in your story, i.e. the cause and effect of what happens. The theme, or moral of a story, is what the character needs to learn; plus, an overview of Act 1, 2 & 3.

Week 5: Monday, April 4th - Sunday, April 10th

- **Objective** → Introduction to Act 1 and Minor Beats, plus Storyboarding techniques

Assignment: Flesh out the minor beats of Act 1 of your story. Then, roughly sketch the images needed to tell Act 1 of your story, and make a storyreel of your Act 1, while pitching your story.

Key takeaways: Minor beats are the series of events that support each major beat or the key moments of your story, introduction to storyboarding techniques and when to use character dialog vs narration to tell your story.

Week 6: Monday, April 11th - Sunday, April 17th

- **Objective** → What Makes a Successful Act 2

Assignment: Flesh out the minor beats of Act 2 of your story, then sketch the images needed to tell your Act 2. Make a storyreel of Acts 1 + 2, while pitching your story.

Key takeaways: Discuss your Act 1 feedback and decide which changes will help your story. Using visual language or action vs words to tell your story. Plus, learn about different shot types: wide, medium, closeup, up/down & extreme shots.

Week 7: Monday, April 18th - Sunday, April 24th

- **Objective** → What Makes a Successful Act 3

Assignment: Flesh out the minor beats of Act 3 of your story, then sketch the images needed to tell your Act 3. Create a storyreel of all three Acts and pitch your entire story.

Key takeaways: Decide what feedback will improve your story and revise Acts 1 & 2. Are there additional moments in your story that could be enhanced by the addition of, or changes to, narration, character dialog and/or visual storytelling?

Week 8: Monday, April 25th → final storyreel due in two weeks: Sunday, May 8th

- **Objective** → Editing and Use of Sound & Music to Enhance Your Story

Assignment: Address any remaining notes and polish your final storyreel for the Exhibition, clarifying performance and pacing of your reels, plus adding sound effects and music.

Key takeaways: Keeping the final deadline in mind, address your most important revisions first, then any remaining items.