English 112: Screenwriting Workshop
Instructor: Prof. Michael Schilf

CHARACTER/ENVIRONMENT

Write the following three scenes. A character enters a specific place to meet a person three times:

1) The first time it is unfamiliar, mysterious to him/her. The scene ends when he/she greets the person.
2) The second time the place seems familiar, friendly - the greeting is a happy one. The scene ends with the greeting.
3) The third time the place is deserted. There should be a feeling of sadness. Nobody is waiting for him/her this time...

Know the character who enters. Create a situation for him/her, a story that is told in these three distinct scenes. The story occurs between these scenes. The way your character reacts to the environment will tell us what’s happened. No dialogue. Visualize! Use mood, lighting, sound. You can tell the story of a whole feature in these three short scenes!

(Think of Scrooge entering Marley's Office the first time as a young man, then sometime later, after he became a partner, then later still when he was all alone.)

Questions that should be answered by the assignment:

Who is the character? How old? Why are they coming to the place? What do they expect to find?

What about the place? What is it? How does he/she perceive it?

In the second and third scenes - How has the place changed? How has the main character changed? More confident? Nervous? What is she doing there again?

WHAT IS THE STORY YOU HAVE TOLD? In other words, what’s happened between the scenes?