

Planning your scene:

This is a scene/sequel (circle one)

Beginning: What does my character want/need at the beginning of this scene?		
Key elements		
1. Motivation: character's need	2. Conflict: what stands in the way?	3. Stakes: what will happen if the character fails?
Body: Show character working toward this goal and struggling against the obstacle. Make sure the MC's actions are consistent with her character arc. Steps character takes to resolve the conflict: include character's action and antagonist's response		
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
Results: What changes? Possible outcomes: Is the conflict resolved, or unresolved?		

<p>Resolved: propel the reader forward by increasing tension.</p> <p>Are new conflicts introduced? If so, how?</p> <p>Did solution create more problems? If so how?</p>	<p>Unresolved: raise the stakes by adding complicating factors</p> <p>Has the situation gotten worse? If so how?</p> <p>Have the consequences gotten worse? If so how?</p> <p>Force your MC to regroup and formulate a new plan.</p>
<p>Dark moment/new question:</p>	
<p>The secret to getting readers to turn the page is ending your chapters with a compelling question or an “Oh crap!” reveal. This does not mean every chapter should end on a cliff hanger. (You will annoy your readers.)</p>	<p>If the scene’s purpose is formulating the plan, leave the reader with a sense of tension about the upcoming mission. If your scene’s purpose is increasing the stakes, drop the critical information close to the end of the scene.</p>
<p>In these scenarios, the reader will be asking, “What will happen next?” This will help propel your reader into the next chapter.</p>	