

Shrine Starter

Brought to you by Amassment Fansite Community

Essay Prompts

For Shrines About Settings/Fictional Worlds

- Compare and contrast this fictional world with a real place that reminds you of it.
- Critique the setting--is it missing any details that you want to know more about? Is there anything that doesn't make sense?

For Shrines About Characters or People

- Examine this character's tragic flaw or greatest weakness.
- Imagine this character in a room with all your other favorite characters. How do they get along together?
- Can you draw a correlation between this character and someone or another character from history? Compare and contrast these characters.
- What do you think inspired the creators to create this character?
- Do you relate to this character? Why or why not? If so, how?
- Comparing your first impression of the character to what you think now.
- Other characters that look/act alike or remind you of this character.
- Most memorable, unusual or unexpected aspects of the character.
- If you met this character, by traveling to their world or if they came here, what would happen?
- What is the background of the character? This can be before, during or after the series.
- Does the character have any special abilities? If so, what are they? Doesn't need to be super powers, can be mundane things like cooking!
- Does the character have important connections in the world they're from? People, items, places, etc.
- Are there different versions of your character that differ greatly? *ie: manga version, anime version, musicals, video games, novel, etc.*

For Shrines About Series

- Select the character that experiences the least growth and change throughout the series. How does this character's lack of growth affect the series or the rest of the cast?
- Is there another series that has similar elements (characters, setting, plot arcs)? How do these two series compare?

Suggested Content

There is some content that you will find on many, many shrines. While this content is not necessary to run a shrine we find that they are expected by many visitors and include them as a best practice:

- Credits (Image credits, information credits, general thank you's)

- Links to related sites
- Link buttons for your shrine
- Images of your subject
- Why you created your shrine (or other information such as why you selected the name, why you like the subject, etc.)

Information Architecture

The information architecture is how you will organize your site and how people will navigate around it. Here is a sample IA for a fictitious character shrine. Here, the creator is making a site for a fictional character Snow White from *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (Animated Film):

1. General Information
 - a. History of the Film
 - i. Key point
 - ii. Key point
 - iii. Key point
 - iv. What I think of the film
 - b. Film's Story
 - i. Key point
 - ii. ...
 - c. About Snow White
 - i. Key point
 - ii. ...
 - iii. What the story was based on
 - d. Other versions of the story
 - i. Key point
 - e. Snow White's impact on Western Society
 - i. Key point
 - f. Film's impact on the animation industry
 - i. Key point
2. Opinions
 - a. Snow White's Personality
 - i. Key point
 - b. Her relationship with the Dwarfs
 - i. Key point
 - c. Her Role
 - i. Key point
 - d. Her relationship with the Huntsman
 - i. Key point
 - e. Why her evil stepmother was after her
 - i. Key point

- f. Look-Alikes
 - i. Key point
- g. Role-Model?
 - i. Key point
- h. Life as a Princess
 - i. Key point
 - ii. Key point
 - iii. Key point
- 3. Fun Stuff
 - a. Fan art
 - b. Fiction I wrote
 - c. Quiz!
- 4. Website Extras
 - a. Links Out
 - b. Link Buttons
 - c. Credits
 - d. Why I like Snow White

This person decided to break their site down like this since they had a lot of information to display. They may decide to make several pages and have a more complex navigation. However, not all shrines need to have several pages. In fact, there are many great shrines that are just a single page in length. Maybe someone wanted to make a shrine to Doc and their outline could appear as such:

- 1. Introduction to Site
- 2. Basic Information about Doc
 - a. What we know about him such as: his appearance, his age, his profession
- 3. In-depth discussion
 - a. What I think of his personality
 - b. What I think of his interaction with Snow White
 - c. What I think of his role with the other Dwarfs
- 4. Credits and Exit
 - a. Image credits
 - b. Information credits
 - c. Link buttons
 - d. Links to other sites

Following this model, we use the number to be a top-level name of a page or section, the lowercase letter to be a sub-header or essay, and then the third level to include notes on key points that you might want to discuss. Note that this is just one of many ways to start organizing your information architecture. Some people will also use charts if they are more visual.

Here are some additional resources:

Presenting Information Architecture:

<http://webstyleguide.com/wsg3/3-information-architecture/4-presenting-information.html>

Beginner's guide to Information Architecture:

<http://www.uxbooth.com/articles/complete-beginners-guide-to-information-architecture/>

Techniques for writing an outline:

<http://www.skilledup.com/articles/how-to-write-an-outline-techniques-resources>