

GARENA WRITING TEST:	Leah Churchill
PROMPT:	HERA, a time traveler, is transported to the wild west, she must reach the Hellfire before her rival and former ally retrieves it. She has the help of a local Sheriff named Howie (love interest), who lost his "perfect shot" from a past ordeal. **Please provide the plot set up and introduction of characters, using minimal descriptions and short lines of dialogue. **
Character	Dialogue
	[Scene: Train to Little Springs] - Afternoon
	You find yourself transported to a rickety old train barreling down a stretch of prairie land.
Player	(Why on earth was I sent here?)
	Two gun shots grab your attention and you realize your train car is in the midst of a robbery.
	As the gun smoke clears, you see a familiar green glint in the eye of the gun wielding-robber. It's Quinn and she's leading the raid.
Quinn	Stick 'em up high where I can see 'em and no one gets hurt.
Quinn	QUINN approaches a well dress man carrying a polished case and points her gun at him.
Quinn	You! With the briefcase, open up!
	QUINN rifles through his papers until she finds a scroll, which she stuffs in her sack.
Quinn	Alright boys, make it quick! We got what we came here for.
Player	(This can't be good, I need to find out what she's up to.)
Choice 1	Confront Quinn.
Choice 2	Sneak up on her from behind.
Quinn	As you walk towards QUINN her eyes lock on yours and a wicked smile spreads across her face. There's no need for your heroics Hera, it's only a matter of time now before the Hellfire is mine. The bandits start arguing over an expensive pocket watch, QUINN turns around to shout at them. You use this moment to pull the scroll out of her sack and unroll it.
Player	(Big Whiskey mine... and there's a red 'X' marked at the bottom, this must be where the Hellfire is. I need to get there first and destroy it!)
Player	You sneak up behind QUINN and carefully pull the scroll from her sack and examine it. (Big Whiskey mine... of course! She's after Hellfire, it's always found at the depths of the earth, fault lines, ocean fissures and... mines.)
Player	Looking more closely, you notice a spot near the bottom marked with a red 'X' . (This must be where the Hellfire is located, I have to get there before her and destroy it!)
	You feel cold steel on the back of your neck and QUINN's low growl buzzes in your ear.
Quinn	Not so fast.
	QUINN slides the scroll out of your hands, keeping her pistol fixed on you.
Player	You really think you can pull that trigger, after everything we've been through?
Quinn	Let's find out...
	You hear a click as QUINN cocks her gun.
	A shot goes off, it takes you a moment to realize it came from the back of the car.
Sheriff	That's enough.
Quinn	Says who?
Sheriff	It's Sheriff to you.
	QUINN grabs you from behind and turns to face SHERIFF HOWIE.
Sheriff	Let her go unharmed and I'll step aside.
Quinn	My associates and I will be needing to take what we came here for.
Sheriff	That's fine by me.
Player	No!!
	You wrestle yourself free from QUINN's grasp, giving SHERIFF HOWIE a clear shot. He fires at QUINN but misses.
	QUINN pulls you by the hair and points the gun directly at your temple.
Quinn	Drop 'em Sheriff or she gets it!
	SHERIFF HOWIE places his pistols on the floor and raises his hands slowly.
	QUINN exits the car, dragging you along with her.
Quinn	Thanks for the escape buttercup, let's do it again some time.
	QUINN throws you off the speeding train.

Character	Dialogue
	[Scene: Road to Little Springs] - Late Afternoon
	After falling down a steep incline, you find yourself on a dirt road covered in mud and grass.
	As you dust yourself off, you discover a large gash on your arm. You're startled by a voice coming from behind you.
Sheriff	That was quite a tumble miss, are you alright?
	A tall man wearing a cowboy hat walks towards you, it takes you a moment to realize it's the Sheriff from the train.
Player	What are you doing here!? You let them get away?
Sheriff	You'll have to forgive me for being more concerned with your welfare than the fate of a few pocket watches, miss.
Player	It's Hera.
	The Sheriff removes his hat, revealing gentle brown eyes and a sturdy jaw.
Sheriff	Howie, Sheriff of Little Springs. The pleasure is mine miss Hera, though I regret the circumstances.
Player	It's much more regrettable now that Quinn has escaped with the map.
Sheriff	That would be my fault for missing the shot... I'm not as sharp as I used to be.
Player	Never mind. I need to get to the Big Whiskey mine, do you know it?
	A shadow passes over SHERIFF HOWIE's face.
Sheriff	I do, but it's been abandoned for years. I can't see any reason to go up there now.
Choice 1	Tell Sheriff Howie about the Hellfire.
Choice 2	Keep the Hellfire a secret for now.
Player	I need to stop Quinn from getting the Hellfire at the bottom of the mine.
Sheriff	Hellfire?
Player	It's a rare and powerful weapon. If it falls into the wrong hands...it could create destruction beyond comprehension.
	SHERIFF HOWIE is caught off guard by your comment and takes a moment to consider what you've said.
Sheriff	Well I don't know much about Hellfire, but I do know it'll take a few days of work to get to the bottom of that mine.
Player	You'll have to trust me, it's better for all of us if I can stop Quinn from getting to the bottom of that mine.
Sheriff	Big Whiskey mine has been broken down for years, it'll take a few days to get to the bottom of it.
Player	But I can't just sit back and wait, I need to stop her.
Sheriff	You aren't going to stop anyone from doing anything with no horse, no pistol and a bleeding arm.
Player	You might be right about that.
Sheriff	I know a doctor in Little Springs who can look at that arm, we'll get you a bath and-
Player	A pistol?
Sheriff	You have my word.
Player	And now that you mention it, a horse could come in handy.
	SHERIFF HOWIE smiles and lets out a long clear whistle. A magnificent auburn horse runs up to meet you.
Sheriff	She can take us the rest of the way.
	SHERIFF HOWIE helps you onto his horse and the two of you ride down the dusty old road to Little Springs.
	[Scene: Little Springs Saloon] - Evening
	SHERIFF HOWIE brings you to the Little Springs Saloon. You find it in poor shape, with bullet holes littering the walls.
	The crowd is rough and rowdy. Women straighten their corsets at the sight of SHERIFF HOWIE and someone clumsily bangs on a piano.
Player	I thought you were taking me to see a doctor?
Sheriff	I am ... howdy Doc!
	The man playing the piano spins around to face SHERIFF HOWIE, clearly drunk.
Doc	Well hullo! *hiccup* what can I do ya for Sheriff?
Sheriff	I've got a friend who needs some attending to.
	DOC shifts his unfocused gaze to you with mild interest.
Doc	Oh do you now? *hiccup*
Player	You can't be serious.
Sheriff	That arm needs looking at, unless you plan on loosing it.
Sheriff	Doc's the best you'll find this side of the Rockies. He just needs some coffee is all.
	SHERIFF HOWIE orders a coffee from an attractive redhead behind the bar.
Mabel	Here you are Sheriff. Are you sure I can't get you anything a little sweeter?
Sheriff	Just the coffee Mabel, thanks.
	SHERIFF HOWIE slaps DOC on the back, startling him to attention.
Sheriff	Now, take Miss Hera up to my room and see if you can't salvage that arm.
Doc	Sure thing Sheriff! *hiccup*

Character	Dialogue
	[Scene: Sheriff Howie's Room] - Night
	Sheriff Howie's room is modest but tastefully decorated. The bed is made neatly and a woolen blanket hangs on the wall next to a guitar.
Doc	Let's have a look see at that scratch shall we?
	DOC gulps down the last of his coffee, rolls up his sleeves and puts on a pair of cracked spectacles.
Doc	Nothing a needle and thread can't fix! And after a few days rest-
Player	I don't have a few days. I'm headed to the Big Whiskey mine at daybreak.
Doc	Oh... that's a dangerous place, no one's been there since the accident...
Player	What accident?
	DOC takes a needle and a fiddle string out of a small medical pouch and begins methodically stitching your wound together.
Doc	A few years back, bank robbers holed up in there with a hostage and the Sheriff was called.
Player	Sheriff Howie?
Doc	That's the one, he used to be known for his perfect shot in those days.
Player	(Funny, he missed on the train today...)
Doc	The robbers dressed the hostage up as one of their own and sent him out with a gun tied to his hand.
Doc	Sheriff took his shot, and well, he hit his target alright.
Player	Oh no...
Doc	By the time Sheriff unmasked the hostage and realized his mistake, the bandits were long gone.
Choice 1	What happened to the bandits?
Choice 2	What happened to Sheriff Howie?
Doc	Never caught, or brought to justice. Word got out that Sheriff lost his perfect shot after the incident.
Doc	With no one to stop them, they've got the run of the town now.
Player	Oh, I see... so the tavern-
Doc	She was a beauty! Now the bandits just come and go as they please, shooting up the place and taking what they like.
Doc	Lost his nerve... can't make a clear shot to save his life... or anyone else's.
Player	(That's explains what happened on the train today.)
Doc	He still does what he can to take care of the good folks here in Little Springs,
Doc	but a part of him never came back from that mine...and the whole town has suffered for it.
	DOC pulls the last stitch tight and cuts the thread with a pair of tiny scissors. You wince in pain, but are relieved to see the tidy work.
Player	Thanks Doc, Sheriff was right about you.
Doc	Happy to- *yawn* oblige miss...
	DOC's eyelids grow heavy and close. He begins snore just as SHERIFF HOWIE enters the room.
Sheriff	Come on Doc, let's get you home.
	SHERIFF HOWIE lifts DOC's arm over his shoulder and carries him out, in what appears to be a well worn routine.
	SHERIFF HOWIE returns to the room carrying two large buckets of steaming hot water which he pours into a large wooden basin.
Sheriff	I promised you a bath.
Player	And a pistol.
	SHERIFF HOWIE removes one of the pistols from his belt, tossing it onto the bed.
Sheriff	I can't stop you from going, can I?
Player	No, you can't.
Sheriff	But I won't let you go into that mine alone either.
	SHERIFF HOWIE takes a step closer to you, meeting your gaze.
	You notice for the first time a fiery determination behind his soft brown eyes.
Player	Sheriff, I hope you weren't expecting on sharing this bed with me?
	SHERIFF HOWIE leans closer, reaching past your head to take the woolen blanket hanging on the wall behind you.
Sheriff	Wouldn't dream of it Miss Hera, I sleep better under the stars. See you at sunrise.

****Please write a complete story tell the experience of a girl pursuing her dream to be an actress and finally making it big in Hollywood. You are free to design the protagonist, enemies and allies. ****

Heather Sutton leaves her small Midwestern town to pursue her lifelong dream of becoming an actress in Hollywood. When she arrives, the apartment share she booked online is smaller than expected, but she finds solace in her friendly new roommate, Amy. Amy, a Los Angeles native, works as a costume designer and also drums for the indie band Purple Pizza.

The night before her first audition, Amy gives Heather advice to help her get casted, but reminds her that it's a tough business and suggests she find a day job. Heather is discouraged when the casting director talks through her reading, discussing the social media stats of the other applicants. Heather decides to follow Amy's advice and takes a job as a barista at Chekov's Cappuccino, a local cafe.

During her first shift she meets Chet, the son of a Hollywood legend who turned to podcasting after a failed acting career. When Chet realizes Heather is an aspiring actress, he intentionally provokes her, dismissing her as just another naive wannabe. Heather passionately defends herself and her dreams.

When she returns home Amy reveals that Chet recorded their conversation and posted the video online. Although Heather is initially embarrassed and upset, Amy insists it's a good thing. Heather discovers that she has gained hundreds of new followers on social media that commend her for following her dreams and staying optimistic.

To cheer her up, Amy pulls some strings and gets Heather a job as an extra in the film she's working on, a period piece starring Heather's idol, Rita Wand. On the set Rita bumps into Heather, accidentally spilling coffee both of them. Heather quickly removes

the stains using a trick she learned at the cafe. Rita admires Heather's enthusiasm and comments on her “unique spark” during their brief exchange.

Following the shoot, Amy invites Heather to an informal wrap party on the lot. Amy tells Heather that Mr. Willis, a producer at the party, is urgently seeking to recast a role and encourages Heather to introduce herself. As Heather approaches the producer, Chet intervenes, introducing his cousin, who ultimately secures the role.

The next day, while working at the cafe, Heather encounters Rita's assistant, who tracked her down using Chet's viral video. She informs Heather that Rita remembered her and recommended her for an audition. At the audition, Heather is surprised to find herself reading a scene with the famous action star, Scott, and an award-winning director. Heather impresses them both and lands the role.

The night before shooting, Heather struggles to sleep and forgets her lines on set, resulting in a disastrous first day. Scott becomes frustrated, prompting the director to send his assistant to help coach Heather. With coaching, Heather improves and eventually garners praise for her performance.

However, tensions on set escalate between Scott and the director as Scott continues to arrive late, demand script changes, and disagree with the direction. Eventually, Scott quits, leading the producer to cancel the film.

Devastated, Heather attends a performance by Amy's band, Purple Pizza, before their world tour. She meets a handsome stranger and they connect instantly. Through their conversation, Heather rediscovers her inner resilience and devises a new plan. When Purple Pizza takes the stage, Heather recognizes the handsome stranger as the lead singer of the band. He dedicates their last song to Heather, praising her as an inspiration to anyone who has dared to pursue their dreams.

The following morning, Heather meets with the director and proposes salvaging the film using existing footage, shifting the story to revolve around her character. He embraces the idea and contacts the producer, who agrees to proceed.

On the night before the film's premiere, Chet claims to have seen a leaked copy and gives it a poor review on his podcast, singling out Heather's performance as the film's downfall. Heather attends the premiere with low expectations, but she's pleasantly surprised to find the theater packed with an enthusiastic crowd and numerous celebrities.

Heather is perplexed, but the director shows her a music video that Purple Pizza recorded on the road, titled "Heather Stardust." It's all about Heather's journey to Hollywood, believing in her dreams and inspiring everyone around her. The video was an instant hit, and the fans are excited to support the real "Heather Stardust" in her first film. The film screening is a tremendous success with both the audience and critics, establishing Heather as a rising star.

After the screening, Heather is surprised to see Rita Wand leaving the theater. Rita compliments Heather's acting skills and tells her that the studio plans to offer her a three-picture deal. When Heather questions how Rita can be so sure, Rita reveals that she was the film's producer all along and gives her a wink.

YOTTA Games - Test Writing Sample
Setting: Hollywood Party

Leah Churchill

Prompt: The protagonist is an aspiring actress attending a Hollywood party with her friend (who is a costume designer.) The friend points out a producer who is looking to recast a small role in his film. She encourages the protagonist to introduce herself and convince him to give her the role. As the protagonist approaches, her long-time rival intercepts the movie producer and attempts to thwart her efforts. You may decide the outcome of the interaction (whether or not she gets the role.)

Requirements

1. Add a dressing gameplay mechanic to the scene.
2. Modern background. Comedic tone. Try to be as interesting and amusing as possible.
3. Written in script format.
4. Dialogue only. You can show the main character's thoughts with parentheses () but please do not include any narrations other than "Some time later." (if necessary)
5. Short dialogue lines are preferred.

HEATHER

Are you sure this is a good idea?

AMY

Not at all! But it just *might* work.

HEATHER

Right time, right place..

AMY

Exactly! But, you'll need the right dress too.

HEATHER

I didn't have a chance to change out of my cafe clothes.

AMY

Lucky for you, I just came from reshoots. Take your pick!

HEATHER

You're a life saver! Hmm... but what impression do I want to make?

(Dressing Gameplay Mechanic)

AMY

Perfect! Now you just need to focus on your acting.

HEATHER

What's the role?

AMY

Daughter of the swamp monster.

HEATHER

What?!

AMY

You just have one line, but it's pretty memorable.

HEATHER

Ok, I'm ready. Give me the line.

AMY

The curse of the swamp monster lives!

HEATHER

The curse of the swa- wait is that who I think it is?

AMY

Speaking of slime monsters, yep that's Chet.

HEATHER

Why is he here?

AMY

My guess? Free food and selfies.

HEATHER

I'm not going to let him distract me.

AMY

Good, because the person you need to convince just walked in.

HEATHER

That's Harry Willis? I imagined him being taller...

AMY

He may be short, but he's a Hollywood legend. Impress him and all kinds of doors will open.

HEATHER

Great, so no pressure.

AMY

None at all! Now, go show 'em what you've got!!

HEATHER

Hi, excuse me... Mr. Willis. I'm-

CHET

If Harry doesn't know you, you're not worth knowing, am I right Harry?

HARRY

Huh? Oh Chet, hi, how is your father?

HEATHER

The curse of the swamp monster LIVES!

HARRY

Ok... not bad. What's your name?

CHET

Don't mind her Harry, she's probably just a fan. Security!

HEATHER

I'm Heather. New in town, but
born to play the swamp monster's
daughter!

HARRY

Possibly... We do need someone
right away.

CHET

Someone, but not just anyone! I've
got your girl right here, Harry.
Go ahead Iris.

IRIS

"THE curse OF THE swamp monster...
um"

CHET

lives.

IRIS

...lives?

CHET

Allow me to introduce Iris, my
cousin on *my Dad's side*.

HEATHER

(You've got to be kidding!)

HARRY

You know I love your Dad, but this
is a swamp monster I'm casting.

HEATHER

(Here's my chance to really go for
it.)

HEATHER

THE CURSE OF THE SWAMP MONSTER
LIVES!!!

HARRY

Now, *that's* a swamp monster.

CHET

She seems a little unhinged to me,
not sure if I'd want her on my set.
But this is about what *you* want.

HARRY

Oh yeah? And what's that, Chet?

CHET

You want to keep your stars happy,
and *nothing* would make Dad happier
than his favorite niece's film debut.

HEATHER

(That's all Chet's got? Pathetic!
This role is mine.)

HARRY

Iris, we'll need you on set at 5AM.
Make sure she knows the line. God
forbid we have to fix it in post.

HEATHER

But Mr. Willis-

HARRY

You've got chutzpah, I'll give you
that. Maybe someone'll notice
someday and give you a shot, but it
ain't today and it ain't me. Sorry
kid.