Anime Dub animation & character scripts

60 practice scripts from VO Journey Academy. Free to record, free to use in your reel. Download the PDF to mark up in the booth, or print it straight from here.

Not Done Yet

Shonen, hero · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[Rubble everywhere. KAITO pushes himself up on one arm as his opponent's shadow falls over him]

Heh. You hit hard. I'll give you that.

[breath]

But you made one mistake. You let me get back up.

[beat]

My whole life, people told me to stay down. The teachers. The village. My own dad.

And every single time, I got up anyway.

So go ahead. Hit me again. I've got nowhere else to be.

[Kaito stands]

Round two. Let's go!

Puddles With More Pressure

Shonen, rival · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[The practice hall. RYOU SHIRAKAWA, top of the class, doesn't bother turning around]

You call that a technique? I've seen puddles with more pressure.

[beat]

Listen carefully, because I'll only say this once. Talent is not something you shout about. It's something you prove, quietly, every day, while people like you are busy making speeches.

[He finally looks back]

Come find me when you've stopped talking. I'll be waiting. Probably for a long time.

Tea Before Training

Mentor, comic · Mature (55+) · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A mountain dojo. MASTER OGAWA pours tea very slowly while her impatient student fidgets]

Sit down. No, sit properly. The tea won't taste better if you glare at it.

You want to learn the Hollow Step today? Good. Everyone does. It's very flashy.

[She sips]

Ahh. That's the good leaf.

[beat]

Do you know why I make you wait? Not because I'm old. Well. Not only because I'm old.

When you fought the Thorn Brothers last week, you were fast. You were strong. And you were thinking about lunch.

The Hollow Step isn't about moving faster. It's about being so still inside that your enemy can't tell which way you'll go. Even you won't know, until you've already gone.

[She sets the cup down. Suddenly serious]

So. Finish your tea. Taste every drop. When you can do that without fidgeting, we begin.

[beat]

And wash the cups. That's also training.

Petal Lantern, Light My Heart

Magical girl, transformation · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[A rooftop at dusk. MIHARU, fourteen, clutches a glowing pink lantern as a smoky shadow beast rises over the street]

No more running away. Hey! That's my best friend you just scared, you big, smoggy, rude jerk!

[breath]

Petal Lantern, light my heart!

[SFX: a burst of petals and chimes]

Guardian of the springtime streets, the girl who never skips a sunrise... Magical Blossom Miharu, here to sweep you away!

[beat]

Um. Was that pose too much? I practiced it in the mirror. My cat said it was fine.

Frame Seven, Launching

Mecha, pilot · Young adult · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[A launch bay. Sirens. PILOT TAKAHARA straps in as the cockpit lights flicker on]

Neural link holding at ninety percent. Engines hot. Good enough for today.

Control, this is Frame Seven. I'm not waiting for the other units. That thing is twelve kilometers from the evacuation shelters.

[breath]

I know what the simulator says. I wrote half the simulator. And I'm telling you, it's wrong about this one.

[beat]

Release the clamps. Now, please. Frame Seven... launching!

Last Train Home

Slice-of-life, friendship · Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A nearly empty evening train. NATSUKI, sixteen, sits beside her best friend AYA, who has fallen asleep on her shoulder]

Hey. Aya. You're drooling on my good blazer.

[beat]

No, it's fine. Sleep.

I was going to tell you today. At the festival, after the fireworks. I had a whole speech. It had three parts. Part two was mostly apologizing.

But you were laughing so hard at Kenji's goldfish, and I thought... not yet. Just one more good day.

[breath]

Dad got the transfer. We move in March. Somewhere with snow.

I don't even own a real coat.

I keep picturing you walking to school without me. Taking the long way past the bakery, like always. Buying two melon buns out of habit.

[beat]

You'd better eat both. Don't give mine to anyone else.

[The train slows]

Our stop. Hey. Aya. Wake up.

[Brighter, covering]

Nothing. I didn't say anything. Come on, we'll miss it.

The Wrong Hero

Isekai, comedy · Young adult · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A glowing summoning circle in a royal throne room. SATO, a baker in a flour-covered apron, is still holding a whisk]

Okay. Okay, okay, okay. Let me just recap.

I was proofing sourdough in my tiny shop on Fourth Street. There was a bright light. And now a king, an actual king with an actual crown, is telling me I'm the Hero of the Seven Stars.

[beat]

Your Majesty, with respect, I think your prophecy has a typo.

"The one who kneads shall rise"? That's... that's bread. That's literally bread.

[breath]

No, no, please don't cry. Okay. Fine. What does the Demon Lord want? Gold? Land? The princess? The secret of eternal youth?

[beat]

...Cake. He wants cake. For his birthday. And nobody in this kingdom can make one that doesn't explode.

[Sato rolls up both sleeves]

Right. Clear me a table. Get me eggs, butter, and your least flammable oven. Hero of the Seven Stars, reporting for duty.

Skill: Perfect Laundry Folding

Isekai, status screen · Young adult · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[A forest clearing. RIN has just woken up in a brand new world and opens a floating status screen]

Status open! Yes! Here we go. Everyone who gets reborn gets something amazing. Sword saint. Dragon tamer. Cheat skill, come on...

Strength: two. Magic: one. Luck... also one. Who gets a one in luck?

[beat]

Unique skill: Perfect Laundry Folding. Level ninety-nine.

[breath]

Okay. That's fine. That's fine! Somewhere in this world, there's a war that can only be won with nice crisp corners!

[SFX: a distant roar]

...Please?

Villainess, Retired

Isekai, villainess · Young adult · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A marble ballroom. LADY CORDELIA VANTRESSE, who has just remembered her past life as an office worker, faces the prince who is about to denounce her]

Your Highness, before you begin your little speech, may I say something?

[beat]

Thank you.

I know how this goes. You'll announce our engagement is off. Your sweet new friend will cry very prettily. And by the end of the season, I'll be exiled to a frozen convent with a single blanket.

I have read this story. Twice.

[breath]

So let me save everyone some time. I withdraw. Voluntarily. Happily. With one small request: the orchard estate in the south, which nobody visits because of the bees.

[beat]

I like bees.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have a peach tart waiting and a lifetime of doom to avoid. Do enjoy your new fiancée. She's very nice. Genuinely.

[She curtsies]

Good evening, everyone. Try the shrimp.

Rooftop, After School

Shonen, hero and rival · Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

Cast: DAIGO SEIJI

A school rooftop at sunset. DAIGO, loud and bandaged, has finally cornered SEIJI, the quiet genius who beat him in the tournament

DAIGO Found you! Hiding up here like a pigeon!

SEIJI I'm eating lunch. Pigeons don't eat lunch.

DAIGO It's four o'clock!

SEIJI I had a busy day. Someone kept challenging me to rematches.

DAIGO And you kept saying no! Why? You scared?

SEIJI Your left shoulder. It's still healing. I don't fight people who are half broken.

beat

DAIGO ...You noticed that?

SEIJI I notice everything. That's why I won.

DAIGO You won because I tripped on a water bottle!

SEIJI I noticed that too.

DAIGO Then notice this! Next month I'll be at a hundred percent, and I'm gonna knock that bored look right off your face!

SEIJI Hm. Good.

DAIGO Good?

SEIJI It's boring being the best when nobody's chasing you.

beat

DAIGO ...Was that a compliment?

SEIJI Finish healing. And stop yelling. The pigeons are trying to eat.

DAIGO So they DO eat lunch!

Contract With a Flying Hamster

Magical girl, mascot · Teen · Any (character choice) · 60 seconds

Cast: TUFFLE HANA

A cluttered bedroom at midnight. HANA, thirteen, stares at TUFFLE, a small floating creature like a winged hamster, who has just appeared on her desk

TUFFLE Greetings, chosen one! I am Tuffle, emissary of the Dreamlight Kingdom!

HANA You're eating my eraser.

TUFFLE It was a long trip. From the other side of the moon. Now listen carefully. A great darkness is rising, and only you can...

HANA Is this because I wished on the vending machine?

TUFFLE ...Why would you wish on a vending machine?

HANA It gave me two sodas once. It felt lucky.

TUFFLE Focus! Take this brooch, speak the words of power, and become the Guardian of Dreams!

HANA Do I get paid?

TUFFLE You get the gratitude of the entire universe.

HANA So no.

beat

TUFFLE ...There are snacks. Magical snacks.

HANA What kind of snacks?

TUFFLE Cloud pudding. It tastes like whatever you love most. Every single time.

beat

HANA Give me the brooch.

TUFFLE Wonderful! Now repeat after me...

HANA And stop eating my stationery.

Forty Percent of a Plan

Mecha, cockpit · Young adult · Neutral American · 60 seconds

Cast: MINAMI ASANO

Inside a damaged mech, mid-battle. LIEUTENANT ASANO pilots Frame Nine. OPERATOR MINAMI speaks from the command bridge

MINAMI Frame Nine, your left arm is gone.

ASANO I noticed. It was the one holding the sword.

MINAMI Retreat to grid four. That's an order. The support squad is two minutes out.

ASANO Negative. If I pull back, it walks straight into the harbor.

MINAMI Asano, your reactor is at sixty percent and dropping.

ASANO Then I've got forty percent of a plan.

MINAMI That isn't how percentages work!

ASANO It is today.

SFX: an alarm

ASANO Minami. Talk to me. Where's its weak point?

beat

MINAMI ...Behind the neck plate. Two-second window when it turns.

ASANO Two seconds. Plenty.

MINAMI You said that last time.

ASANO And I came back.

MINAMI In a tow truck!

ASANO A very dignified tow truck.

MINAMI You were crying.

ASANO The cockpit was dusty.

breath

ASANO It's turning. Count me in.

MINAMI Three... two... now!

ASANO Going in! Keep the coffee hot, Minami!

Festival Committee

Slice-of-life, club comedy · Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

Cast: KOMORI YUZU TAKESHI

An after-school clubroom. The Astronomy Club has one week to plan its festival booth. PRESIDENT KOMORI, cheerful YUZU and sleepy TAKESHI sit around a desk covered in snacks

KOMORI Okay! Ideas for the festival. Go!

YUZU A planetarium! We turn off the lights and put stars on the ceiling!

KOMORI Great! Budget?

YUZU ...What's a budget?

KOMORI It's the four hundred yen in the cookie tin.

YUZU Oh. We ate the cookies.

KOMORI Takeshi?

TAKESHI A nap booth. People pay to lie down in the dark.

KOMORI That's the planetarium without the stars.

TAKESHI It's more honest.

YUZU What if we did both? Stars AND naps?

KOMORI We are not charging people to sleep.

TAKESHI The drama club charges people to watch them cry.

YUZU He's got a point.

KOMORI He does not have a point! Okay. Planetarium. Yuzu, you're on stars. Takeshi, you're on... blankets.

TAKESHI Soft ones?

KOMORI Fine. Soft ones.

beat

YUZU So it IS a nap booth.

KOMORI It's a relaxing astronomical experience!

TAKESHI ...I'll make the sign. Tomorrow.

The Last Lesson

Mentor, farewell · Mature (55+) and Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

Cast: KEN HOSOKAWA

A burning temple courtyard. MASTER HOSOKAWA, wounded, kneels on the stones. Her student KEN runs to her side

KEN Master! Hold on, I'll get help! Somebody! Anybody!

HOSOKAWA There's no time. And stop shaking. You'll spill your courage.

KEN This isn't funny!

HOSOKAWA Everything's a little funny. That was the first thing I taught you. You never listened.

beat

KEN I listened. I just... I thought there'd be more lessons.

HOSOKAWA There's one more. Give me your hand.

breath

HOSOKAWA The Ember Palm isn't a technique. It never was. It's what happens when you stop fighting for yourself and start fighting for someone behind you.

KEN Then who's behind me now?

HOSOKAWA Everyone in this valley. The baker's twins. The girl who sells plums at the bridge. Old Mr. Fujita and his terrible dog.

beat

HOSOKAWA And me. Always.

KEN Master... I won't let you down.

HOSOKAWA Go on. And Ken? Sweep the courtyard when this is over. It's a mess.

Do Not Pull

Isekai, party comedy · Young adult · Any (character choice) · 60 seconds

Cast: RYUU MIRABEL GORRAN

The mouth of a dungeon. Three adventurers stand in front of a huge stone door: RYUU, the newly summoned hero; MIRABEL, an elf mage; and GORRAN, a knight in very heavy armor

RYUU Okay, team. Big door. Probably a boss. Maybe two bosses. Plan?

MIRABEL I'll cast Frostbind on whatever comes out. It lasts nine seconds.

GORRAN I will stand in front. As always. I am the wall.

RYUU Great. And I'll... do hero stuff.

MIRABEL What hero stuff? You've been here four days.

RYUU I have a strong sense of justice.

GORRAN Your sword is still in its gift wrapping.

RYUU It was a nice ribbon!

GORRAN It was. I helped tie it.

MIRABEL Fine. I freeze, Gorran blocks, and you pull the lever.

RYUU What lever?

MIRABEL The one that says "Do Not Pull."

beat

RYUU That seems important. Like, legally.

GORRAN Everything in a dungeon says "Do Not Pull." It is tradition.

RYUU Okay. On three. One, two...

SFX: the door creaks open by itself

GORRAN ...It was not locked. It was never locked.

MIRABEL Nobody tell the guild. Ever.

Match Point Timeout

Sports anime, teammates · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

Cast: HARUTO IKKI

A volleyball timeout. The score is 24 to 23. Setter HARUTO and ace spiker IKKI huddle at the bench

HARUTO Their blocker reads your approach. Every time.

IKKI So I jump higher.

HARUTO You can't jump higher. You're already hitting the ceiling lights.

IKKI Then what?

HARUTO Fake left. I'll set it behind me. Quick. You won't see it coming either.

IKKI You want me to hit a ball I can't see?

HARUTO I want you to trust me.

beat

IKKI ...Fine. But if I miss, you're buying ramen for a month.

HARUTO Deal. Now go win.

The Gray Sovereign

Villain, monologue · Adult (any) · Any (character choice) · 60 seconds

[A throne room of black glass. THE GRAY SOVEREIGN watches the heroes stumble in]

Ah. You're early. How rude. I had a whole speech prepared for the next floor.

[beat]

No matter. Sit. Or stand. Heroes always stand. You want to know why I did it. Why I stopped the clocks. Why every bell in the empire has gone silent.

[The Sovereign rises]

You've come all this way expecting an explanation. A lonely childhood. A betrayal. Something you can pity. Perhaps a dead sister. Perhaps a broken promise under a cherry tree.

[breath]

I'm not going to give you one.

Some things are simply done. Not because I was hurt. Not because I was wronged. Because I could. And because it was very, very quiet afterward. Listen. Isn't it lovely?

[beat]

You may attack now. I'll wait. I have, after all, all the time in the world.

Iron Tide Breaker

Shonen, attack call · Teen · Neutral American · 15 seconds

[KOTARO plants his feet as a wave of shadow soldiers charges the bridge]

You want my friends? You'll have to go through me.

[breath]

Every punch I've thrown, every time I fell... it all comes down to this!

Iron Tide...

BREAKER!

This Time

Shonen, rival · Teen · Neutral American · 15 seconds

[Dust settles. The rival, ARATA, lies flat on his back, beaten for the first time]

Tch.

[beat]

Don't look so happy. I slipped.

[breath]

...Fine. You won. This time.

But next time we meet, I won't hold back. So you'd better get stronger. Idiot.

The Captain's Goodbye

Slice-of-life, graduation · Young adult · Neutral American · 90 seconds

[Graduation day. The kendo club dojo is empty except for club captain AKIRA and the first-years lined up in front]

Okay, okay. Sit down, all of you. I'm not doing this standing up. My knees are shaking.

[beat]

Three years ago, I walked into this dojo because the tennis club was full. That's the truth. I didn't even know which end of the sword to hold. Captain Mori laughed at me for a week.

And then he stayed after practice with me. Every day. For a year.

[breath]

I never thanked him. I thought there'd be time. There's always time, right? Then graduation came, and he was gone, and I was captain, and I had no idea what I was doing.

So here's what I learned. You don't get strong by winning. You get strong by showing up on the days you're sure you'll lose.

[beat]

Takumi. Your footwork is still terrible. Fix it.

Hana. Stop apologizing when you land a hit. You earned it.

And all of you... stay after practice with whoever walks in next April not knowing which

end to hold.

[breath]

That's it. That's my whole speech. I'm going to go cry in the equipment room now.

[beat]

Thank you. Really. Thank you.

Queen of Wilted Things

Magical girl, villainess · Adult (any) · Any (character choice) · 30 seconds

[A garden gone gray. QUEEN GRISAILLE floats above the magical girls, twirling a dead rose]

How sweet. Five brave little girls in matching ribbons, come to save the flowers.

[beat]

Do you know what happens to flowers, darlings? They wilt. Every single one. I'm simply... saving them the wait. Such a kindness, really.

[breath]

Go on. Sparkle at me. Throw your little hearts and stars. I've been looking forward to it all week.

[She crushes the rose]

Let's see who blooms.

Pilot's Log, Day Forty

Mecha, reflective · Young adult · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A dim cockpit, running on reserve power. PILOT YUNE records a log for no one in particular]

Pilot's log. Day forty. Still no signal from the fleet.

Frame Three is holding up better than I am. The left knee grinds when I walk, but it walks. That's more than I can say for my coffee supply.

[beat]

I passed the old research station today. The one from the training videos. It's all moss now. There was a bird's nest in the radar dish. Three eggs.

I stood there for a whole minute. Didn't want to scare her.

[breath]

Funny. I spent two years learning how to fight in this thing. Nobody ever taught us what to do when the fighting stops and you're still here.

[beat]

Tomorrow, I head north. If anyone finds this recording... the eggs hatched. I checked.

Yune, signing off.

Reactor Critical

Mecha, sacrifice · Adult (any) · Neutral American · 15 seconds

[Warning lights. CAPTAIN VEGA grips the controls as the reactor screams]

All units, clear the blast zone. That's an order!

[breath]

No, I'm not ejecting. If I let go now, it hits the city.

[beat]

Tell my sister... she can keep the cat.

Bento Confession

Slice-of-life, romance · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[Lunchtime by the school gate. SHOTA, fifteen, holds out a lopsided lunch box to his classmate TSUBAKI]

Um. Tsubaki-san? Do you have a second?

[beat]

I made too much lunch. By accident. It happens. All the time. Constantly.

[breath]

The egg roll is supposed to be a heart. It's more of a... potato. I tried four times.

[beat]

You don't have to eat it. Or like me. I mean it! I mean... enjoy the potato.

Twenty Yen

Slice-of-life, family · Young adult · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A tiny countryside candy shop, closed for a month. MAKOTO, twenty-four, back from the city, unlocks the door for the first time since Grandma's funeral]

Okay, Grandma. I'm here.

[beat]

It still smells like roasted beans and your hand cream. How is that possible?

The price tags are all in your writing. Twenty yen for the lemon drops. You never raised it once. Not in thirty years.

[breath]

Everyone keeps asking if I'm going to sell. The man from the real estate office brought me a very nice pen.

[beat]

But the Tanaka kids came by this morning. They pressed their faces on the glass. The little one asked if the lucky dip was still here.

[Makoto looks at the jar on the counter]

It is.

[breath]

So I guess we're open on Saturday. I don't know how to do the books. I don't know

where you hid the spare keys.

But I know twenty yen for the lemon drops. That, I can do.

Final Serve

Sports anime, inner monologue · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[A silent gym. SAKI bounces the ball three times before the serve that decides the championship]

Breathe. In, out. Just like practice. Three bounces. Always three.

The crowd isn't here. The score isn't here. It's just me, the ball, and that one soft spot on their back line. Number four keeps drifting left when she's tired. She's tired.

[beat]

Coach said I choke under pressure.

[breath]

Coach was right. Last year.

[Saki tosses the ball]

This year, I'm the pressure.

Center Position

Idol, backstage · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[Backstage, thirty seconds to curtain. RIRI, the newest member of the idol group Honeydrop Seven, can't stop shaking]

Okay. Okay. Center position. Me. The girl who fell off the stage at auditions.

[breath]

Everyone's waiting. Mom's in row twelve with a sign that's way too big. It has glitter. So much glitter.

[beat]

You can do this, Riri. Smile. Hit your mark. Don't trip on the cable. Don't look at Mom.

[The music starts]

Hi, everyone! We're Honeydrop Seven! Are you ready? Let's go!

Next Time on Ember Crown Academy

Episode preview · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[Upbeat preview music. JUNPEI, the hero, talks straight to the audience]

Hey, it's me, Junpei! Next time on Ember Crown Academy...

Midterms are here, and I haven't studied at all! Worse, my roommate turned my textbook into a frog! And the frog is smarter than me!

[beat]

Can I pass the exam, rescue my textbook, and still make the big tournament?

Next time: "The Frog Knows Everything!"

See you there! Probably! Unless I fail!

Unauthorized Kindness

Slice-of-life, student council · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[The student council room. PRESIDENT KAEDE has just been handed a birthday card by the new treasurer]

What is this? A card? For me? Who told you it was my birthday?

[beat]

I-I'm not flustered. Why would I be flustered? It's paper. I handle paper all day. Important paper. Budgets.

[breath]

This is a violation of council policy. Section four, paragraph two. Unauthorized kindness during office hours.

[She tucks the card carefully into her blazer pocket]

I'm confiscating it. As evidence. Now get back to work... and thank you.

A Really Good Stick

Shonen, kid sidekick · Child (played by adult) · Neutral American · 15 seconds

[A village clinic. TOMO, seven, stands on a stool beside his big brother's bed]

Big brother! You're awake!

The doctor said you're not allowed to fight for a whole week. So I'm gonna guard you. I have a stick.

[beat]

Don't laugh! It's a really good stick!

The Ramen Duel

Cooking battle, final dish · Young adult · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A packed stadium kitchen. Steam everywhere. SOUSUKE slides a bowl in front of three stone-faced judges]

Judges. Before you taste it, let me tell you what you're looking at.

Pork bone broth, simmered for nineteen hours. Noodles cut by hand this morning. And one egg, soft in the middle, exactly the way it's supposed to be.

[beat]

My rival made you a ramen with gold leaf on it. It was beautiful. I watched you take pictures of it.

But this recipe comes from a stall under a railway bridge. My grandfather ran it for forty years. Every night at eleven, the night shift workers came in cold and tired, and he fed them for less than it cost him.

[breath]

He never won anything. He never entered anything.

So this isn't a dish to impress you. It's a dish to make you feel like someone was waiting up for you.

[He pushes the bowl forward]

Go on. Eat it while it's hot!

Kitsune at the Shrine Gate

Supernatural, yokai · Adult (any) · Any (character choice) · 60 seconds

[A mountain shrine at dusk. Red gates. A white fox steps out of the mist and becomes KOHAKU, a spirit in a lantern-red kimono]

Oh my. A visitor. And without an offering. How rude.

[She circles him]

You're lost, aren't you? Humans always look like that when they're lost. Very serious. Lots of frowning at their phones.

It won't work up here. The mountain doesn't like signals.

[beat]

Now. I could show you the way down. Or I could send you around the same path forty times until you start talking to the trees. I've done that before. It was very funny.

[She stops. Sniffs the air]

Wait. That scarf.

[softer]

I know that knot. Your grandmother tied it the same way. She used to bring me rice cakes every autumn, when she was small. She stopped coming a long time ago.

[beat]

Did she send you? No... she's gone, isn't she.

[breath]

Then follow my lantern, little grandson. And next autumn, bring rice cakes. I'll be waiting.

Detective Club, Case Closed

Mystery, school detective · Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

Cast: AOI BENJIRO FUU

The Detective Club room after school. AOI, club president, points dramatically. BENJIRO, the class rep, and FUU, the art club captain, stand by an empty cake box

AOI The case of the missing strawberry shortcake is solved!

BENJIRO Already? It's been four minutes.

AOI Three clues. One. The box was opened from the bottom, by someone who couldn't lift the lid.

FUU Who opens a cake box from the bottom?

AOI Two. There are crumbs on the windowsill. Tiny crumbs. Bite-sized for someone very small.

BENJIRO Okay, that's weird.

AOI Three! Someone has been chewing the corner of the club's attendance sheet for a week. And there's only one member who never signs it.

FUU Aoi. Are you saying what I think you're saying?

AOI The culprit... is in this room.

She whips the cloth off a cage on the shelf

AOI Mochi! The club hamster!

BENJIRO Mochi's asleep.

AOI Pretending.

FUU He has cream on his face.

AOI Mochi, you have the right to remain fluffy.

BENJIRO He's eating the evidence.

AOI Case closed. Somebody get me a smaller pair of handcuffs.

Storeroom Band Practice

Music anime, band · Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

Cast: MOMO KEI JIRO

A cramped gym storeroom full of volleyball nets. MOMO on drums made of buckets, KEI clutching a bass, JIRO sitting on a pile of mats with a guitar

MOMO Okay. The school festival is in three days, and we have zero songs!

KEI We have one song.

MOMO We have half a song. The chorus is just you saying "yeah" for forty seconds!

KEI I was going to write more words. I got scared.

MOMO Of what? Words?

KEI Of people hearing the words.

MOMO Jiro. Back me up.

JIRO ...

MOMO Jiro, you've said nine words since April.

JIRO Ten.

MOMO Ten. Great. Love that for you!

KEI tunes nervously

KEI What if nobody comes?

MOMO Then we play for the volleyball nets. They've always believed in us.

JIRO stands up. Plays a slow, clean chord. Both of them stop

JIRO I wrote the verse. Last night.

KEI You... wrote words?

JIRO About this room. And you two.

KEI Can we hear it?

JIRO Only if you sing the chorus. More than "yeah".

MOMO ...Okay. Okay, don't make me cry in a storeroom. From the top!

The Umbrella Stand

Shojo, romance · Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

Cast: HINATA REN

The school entrance, pouring rain. HINATA, sixteen, stares at the empty umbrella stand. REN, her classmate, stands two lockers away

HINATA Someone took my umbrella.

REN Oh. That's... bad.

HINATA It was blue. With little white rabbits.

REN I know.

HINATA You know?

REN I mean, I've seen it. It's very recognizable. The rabbits.

beat

HINATA I'm going to have to run to the station.

REN It's really far.

HINATA I know.

REN Take mine.

HINATA Then you'll get soaked.

REN I don't mind. I run every morning anyway. In the rain. I love rain. Rain is my favorite.

HINATA Ren. Your umbrella has rabbits on it.

long pause

REN ...I bought one the same as yours. In April. So I'd have an excuse to talk to you about it. I never found the excuse.

HINATA [quiet laugh] So whose umbrella is this?

REN Mine. Yours is in the art room. You left it there on Tuesday.

HINATA Then... we'll share. This one. To the station.

REN Okay. Yes. Okay.

Ronin at the Crossroads

Historical, samurai · Adult (any) · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A muddy crossroads at night. Five bandits block the road. JUBEI, a ronin with a chipped sword, keeps his hands in his sleeves]

Evening.

You want the rice. I understand. It's been a bad harvest. I've seen the villages.

But this rice isn't mine. It belongs to a farmer named Oki, who is seventy and very slow, and who's waiting for me at the bottom of this hill.

[beat]

I'm going to walk through. You're going to let me. And tomorrow you'll go to Oki's village, and you'll ask him for work, because he needs hands and he'll pay you in this rice.

[A bandit laughs]

Yes. It does sound simple. Most things are, before someone draws a sword.

[breath]

I've drawn this one many times. It's chipped from every one of them. I'd like to put it away for good. Truly.

So I'll ask once more. Step aside.

[pause]

Thank you. Oki makes very good pickles, by the way. Tell him I sent you.

The Last Stop Bus

Supernatural, gentle · Mature (55+) · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A glowing bus stop in an empty street. Fog. The CONDUCTOR, in a faded cap, leans out of an old green bus]

Evening, miss. No, no, you're at the right stop. Everyone's at the right stop, eventually.

You don't need a ticket. You never did. Hop on whenever you like.

[beat]

Confused? That's all right. Everybody is, the first night. You were walking home, it was raining, and now it isn't. That's about as much as anyone remembers.

[He pats the seat beside the door]

Sit here. Best view. We go past the river, then the old school, then the bakery where they still leave the light on.

[breath]

You're worried about your brother. I can see it. They always worry about someone.

He'll be fine. Takes time, but he'll be fine. And you looked after him for a long while. You did fine. You did more than fine.

[He rings the bell]

There we are. Doors closing. Hold on to the rail, it's a bumpy start.

Final Turn

Card battle, duel · Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A glowing duel arena. YUUKI has one life point left. His opponent's giant dragon looms over the field]

One life point. One card in my hand. And the Abyss Wyrm on your side of the field.

[beat]

Everyone in this stadium thinks it's over. Honestly? So did I. For about a second.

But my sister built this deck before she moved away. She told me, the cards you trust are the ones that show up.

[breath]

So let's see who shows up. My turn. I draw!

[He looks at the card. Starts to grin]

Heh. Of course it's you.

I play Paper Sparrow, attack zero, defense zero. Go ahead and laugh.

Now I activate its ability! When Paper Sparrow is the only card on my field, it copies the strongest monster in play.

[SFX: a burst of light]

Your Wyrm has four thousand attack. So does my Sparrow. And that's not all. I equip

Lantern of the Long Road!

Paper Sparrow, fly! End this duel!

Anchor Leg

Sports anime, captain speech · Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[The pool deck before the regional relay final. CHIHARU, team captain, gathers three teammates in their towels]

Okay. Huddle. Closer. Yes, I know we're wet.

[beat]

I'm not going to pretend I'm not scared. My hands are shaking. Look. Totally shaking.

Last year we came fourth in this race. Fourth. One place off the podium. I swam the anchor leg and I went out too fast and I had nothing left for the last ten meters.

I think about those ten meters every day.

[breath]

Sakura, you've got the best start on the team. Don't think. Just go.

Nao, your turns are perfect. Trust them.

Emi. You've been swimming extra laps every morning since June. I know because I've been watching from the stands, pretending I wasn't.

[beat]

This time I'm not going out too fast. I'm saving everything for those ten meters. And when I get there, I'll be thinking about you three.

So nobody swims alone today. We touch the wall together. Got it?

Hands in. Hanamizu, let's go!

Bridge Drill

Space opera, academy · Young adult · Neutral American · 60 seconds

Cast: KANAME RIKU

A training starship bridge. CADET KANAME in the captain's chair. CADET RIKU at the navigation console, eating a protein bar

KANAME Training drill seven. Navigator, report.

RIKU The navigator reports he's eating breakfast.

KANAME Riku. The instructors are watching.

RIKU The instructors are asleep. I can hear Instructor Oda snoring through the vent.

KANAME Course to the Teshima relay station, please.

RIKU Plotting. Plotted. Done. Can I finish my bar?

KANAME You plotted it in two seconds?

RIKU I've plotted this exact course forty times. It's the only drill they ever give us.

SFX: a real alarm, deep and loud

KANAME ...That's not the drill alarm.

RIKU No. That's a real proximity warning.

KANAME What's out there?

RIKU Debris field. Big one. Moving toward the relay station. There are two hundred people on that station.

KANAME Can we reach them before it does?

RIKU Not on the training course.

KANAME Then forget the training course. Give me something faster.

RIKU There is a faster route. Through the debris.

KANAME Can you fly it?

RIKU I've never flown it.

KANAME You've never flown anything but drill seven.

RIKU Then I'm about to get a lot more interesting. Hold on to something, Captain!

Magical Girl's Day Off

Magical girl, comedy · Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

[A shopping street on a sunny Saturday. NANAMI, fourteen, holds a crepe and a shopping bag]

Okay. One day. One normal day. A crepe, a movie, maybe some socks with cats on them. That's all I want.

[SFX: a distant explosion]

No. No, no. It's Saturday. Villains don't work Saturdays. It's in the rules!

[She takes a bite of her crepe defiantly]

Not going. Someone else can handle it. There are four other magical girls in this city.

[Her phone buzzes]

"Nanami, help, Hoshi has the flu." Of course she has the flu.

[sighs]

Fine. Fine!

[She raises her pendant]

Starlit Heart, Shine Forever!

[SFX: a sparkling transformation]

[flat]

There. I'm sparkly. I'm wearing a skirt made of light. Very practical for fighting. Not one single pocket.

[She looks up]

And the monster is... a giant pigeon. Made of shopping bags. Okay, that's actually kind of cool. Terrible, but cool.

[beat]

Hey. Pigeon. You knocked over the crepe stand. The one with the strawberry special. Now it's personal!

The Innkeeper's Guild Card

Isekai, slice-of-life · Young adult · Neutral American · 60 seconds

Cast: GARTH HARU

A cozy inn at the edge of a fantasy village. HARU, formerly a tired office worker, wipes the counter. GARTH, a huge armored adventurer, slams the door open

GARTH Innkeeper! A room! A meal! And a hot bath, for I have slain the Swamp Hydra!

HARU Welcome back, Garth. Room four is ready. Stew's on. And please wipe your boots.

GARTH My boots are covered in the blood of a mighty beast!

HARU That's why I asked.

beat

GARTH You are a strange innkeeper. In my homeland, innkeepers fear me.

HARU In my old life, I worked in customer service for eight years. Nothing scares me anymore.

GARTH What is customer service?

HARU It's like fighting a hydra, except the hydra wants to speak to your manager.

GARTH ...I do not understand, but I respect it.

HARU Also, your guild card's expired. I renewed it while you were out.

GARTH You can do that?

HARU I filled out the forms. In triplicate. Took ten minutes.

GARTH The guild clerks take three weeks!

HARU I know. That's why I'm much happier running an inn.

Haru sets down a steaming bowl

HARU Eat. You did good work today.

Former Enemies

Shonen, new ally · Teen · Neutral American · 60 seconds

Cast: MIZUKI TAIGA

A broken bridge at sunset. MIZUKI, a former villain, her cloak torn. TAIGA, the hero, bandaged and grinning

MIZUKI Don't look at me like that.

TAIGA Like what?

MIZUKI Like you're happy to see me. I tried to drop a mountain on you three weeks ago.

TAIGA A small mountain. More of a hill.

MIZUKI It was a mountain, Taiga.

TAIGA Okay. So why are you here?

MIZUKI The Order turned on me. They took my brother. I can't get him back alone.

beat

TAIGA So you want my help.

MIZUKI I want you to stand in the same direction as me for a while. That's all.

TAIGA That's what help is.

MIZUKI Don't make it weird.

TAIGA Why me, though? There are a lot of heroes.

pause

MIZUKI Because when I dropped that mountain, everyone ran. You ran toward it. To pull a kid out from under a cart. Because you were the only one who didn't run.

TAIGA ...Okay. Deal.

MIZUKI Just like that?

TAIGA Just like that. But you're buying the dumplings.

MIZUKI I'm going to regret this.

TAIGA Probably!

Late for the Opening Ceremony

Slice-of-life, school comedy · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[A residential street, morning. YUI sprints with a slice of toast in her mouth and her shoes untied]

Late, late, late. First day of high school and I'm late!

[breath]

My alarm was set for seven. P.M. Who sets an alarm for P.M.? Me. I do. Apparently.

If I take the shortcut past the shrine, I can still make the opening ceremony. Just two more corners!

[She skids round a corner]

Wait.

[beat]

Why is the gate closed? Why is nobody here? Why does that sign say... Sunday?

Demon Lord on Vacation

Isekai, villain comedy · Adult (any) · Any (character choice) · 30 seconds

[A crowded summer beach. THE DEMON LORD ZARGATH, in sunglasses and a floral shirt, stands over a deckchair]

Mortals. For three hundred years I have conquered kingdoms. Today, I seek only one thing.

Rest.

[beat]

And yet you have placed your towel on MY sun lounger. The one I reserved. With my towel. At six this morning.

I could turn you to stone. I could summon a storm that would darken this coast for a thousand years.

[pause]

Instead, I will ask the lifeguard. Politely. Like a normal person on holiday.

Last Arrow

Sports anime, archery · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[An archery range. Silence. SORA draws the bow for the final arrow]

The whole school is watching. I can hear someone's phone buzzing in the third row.

Don't listen. Feet. Hips. Shoulders. Breathe out.

Coach always says the arrow already knows where it's going. My job is just to let go without changing its mind.

[breath]

The target isn't far. It's the same distance it was in practice. Every single day.

[pause]

Let go.

The Rooftop Garden Club

Slice-of-life, club recruitment · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[A school hallway during club recruitment week. HIROSHI holds a tiny handwritten sign]

Um. Excuse me. Do you like... plants?

[beat]

The Rooftop Garden Club is recruiting. I'm the president. I'm also the only member. So I'm sort of everything.

We have tomatoes. They're doing really well this year. One of them is the size of a baseball. I named it Kenta.

[pause]

You don't have to come. But if you want somewhere quiet to eat lunch, the roof is very quiet. And Kenta is a good listener.

Nekomata Café

Supernatural, comedy · Young adult · Any (character choice) · 30 seconds

[A tiny café down a side street. TAMA, a cat spirit with two tails, lounges on the counter]

Welcome to Café Nekomata. Sit anywhere. Not there. That's my sunbeam.

[yawn]

You'd like to order? Mmm. We have coffee, tea, and a fish sandwich that is not for you.

[beat]

You want the fish sandwich?

No.

[She stretches]

Fine. Coffee. It'll be ready when I feel like getting up. Probably Thursday. Leave the money in the jar. And scratch behind my ears on the way out.

First Sortie

Mecha, cadet · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[A cramped cockpit. Launch lights flash red. CADET HAYATE grips the controls]

Control, this is Unit Twelve. Systems green. I think. Is green good? Green is good.

[breath]

My hands are shaking so hard the controls are rattling. That's normal, right? Tell me that's normal.

[beat]

Okay. Okay. My squad's already out there. They need a twelfth unit, and I'm the twelfth unit. Nobody else is coming.

Unit Twelve, Hayate. Launching!

Fan Meeting

Idol, fan event · Young adult · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[A fan meeting hall. Long line. MAYU, an idol in a sparkly jacket, waves to the next fan]

Hi! Thank you for coming! Oh, you made a sign? With my face on it? That's so cute!

[beat]

You came from where? Five hours on the train? Just for this?

[quieter]

I used to take that train. Before all this. I'd sit by the window and practice singing under my breath and hope nobody heard me.

[bright again]

Sorry! Sorry. Okay, picture time. Ready? Say "star"!

Little Brother's Lunch

Slice-of-life, family · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[A small kitchen at six in the morning. DAISUKE, seventeen, packs a lunch box while his little brother sleeps]

Rice. Egg roll. Sausage cut into an octopus, because apparently that's a rule now.

[beat]

Mom's working another double, so it's me again. I'm terrible at this. The octopus has three legs.

He's going to complain. He always complains.

[He tucks a note inside the lid]

"Eat the carrots. I'm watching." And a drawing of me watching.

There. Done. Now I'm late. Good morning to me.

The Phantom Thief's Calling Card

Heist, rivals · Young adult · Any (character choice) · 30 seconds

Cast: THIEF KUGA

A museum rooftop under a full moon. The PHANTOM THIEF, in a white mask, stands on the railing. INSPECTOR KUGA arrives breathless

THIEF Good evening, Inspector. You're early. I'm impressed.

KUGA Give back the Moonstone, Phantom.

THIEF I haven't taken it yet. I'm waiting for you to try and stop me. It's more fun that way.

KUGA You left a calling card saying midnight. It's eleven fifty-nine.

THIEF Then you have one minute. Make it interesting.

KUGA ...I already swapped the stone for a fake. Last week.

THIEF Oh. Oh, I like you.

Next Time on Starlight Harbor

Episode preview · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[Upbeat preview music. SUZU, the heroine, leans into the camera]

Hey, everyone! Suzu here!

Next time, the summer festival finally arrives! Fireworks, goldfish scooping, and the yukata I've been saving up for since spring.

But wait. Why is everyone at school acting so weird? And why does the festival poster have my name on it in giant letters?

[beat]

Oh no. Did I sign up for the singing contest?

Next time on Starlight Harbor: "Suzu Can't Sing!"

See you there!

The Ghost in Room 3-B

Supernatural, school · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[An empty classroom after school. SAYAKA, a ghost in an old-fashioned uniform, floats over a desk]

Oh! You can see me? Nobody can see me! This is amazing!

I'm Sayaka. I've been in this classroom since, um... a while. The chalkboards used to be green.

[beat]

You're sitting in my seat, by the way. It's fine. I don't need it. I can't technically sit.

[quieter]

It's been a long time since anyone said hello back.

[bright]

So! Want me to tell you the answers to tomorrow's quiz?

Training Arc

Shonen, training montage · Teen · Neutral American · 30 seconds

[A montage. A waterfall, a mountain, a very heavy rock. RYOMA narrates]

Day one. Master Tobe told me to carry this rock up the mountain. I said, "Which rock?" He pointed at the big one.

Day ten. Still the big one.

Day thirty. My arms don't work. I eat soup with my feet now.

Day sixty. I made it halfway up. The rock is my friend now. I call him Pebble.

[breath]

Day one hundred. Top of the mountain. Me and Pebble. Watch out, tournament. Here we come!

Thunder Fang Burst

Shonen, attack call · Teen · Neutral American · 15 seconds

[GOU crouches as lightning gathers around both fists]

You hurt my friends. You laughed when they fell. Now you're going to feel every single bolt of this storm, all at once.

[breath]

Thunder Fang...

BURST!

Shield Up

Mecha, defender call · Young adult · Neutral American · 15 seconds

[Incoming missiles. PILOT NOZOMI swings Unit Four in front of the squad]

Everyone, get behind me! Don't argue, just move! There's no time!

Unit Four, all power to the front shield. Every last drop. Now!

Shield up!

I Won't Run

Shonen, resolve · Teen · Neutral American · 15 seconds

[A burning village. TOMOYA, knees shaking, faces a giant shadow beast]

My legs are shaking. My hands are shaking. Everything's shaking.

[breath]

But if I run, there's nobody left to stand here. Nobody left between that thing and my family.

So I'm not running.

Big Sister, Watch This

Slice-of-life, kid · Child (played by adult) · Neutral American · 15 seconds

[A riverbank. HINA, six, stands on a rock, holding a skipping stone]

Big sister! Big sister! Watch this! I've been practicing all week by the river and I got really, really good!

One... two... three!

[SFX: a single loud plop]

...That was a warm-up throw.

Final Round Commentary

Sports anime, commentator · Adult (any) · Neutral American · 90 seconds

[A packed national stadium. The final match of the National High School Dodgeball Championship. Commentator HAYASHI is at the mic]

Welcome back, everyone, to the National High School Dodgeball Championship final. I'm Hayashi, my voice is already gone, and we are not even halfway through!

On the left, the defending champions, Tetsuzan Academy! Big, fast and absolutely terrifying.

On the right, the team nobody expected to be here. Little Minato Fishing High, with only seven players, two of whom joined last week!

[breath]

And the score is tied. Three players each. This is unbelievable. I'm going to say it again

because I don't believe it. This is unbelievable!

The ball goes to Tetsuzan's captain, Tetsuo. He winds up. He throws. A cannonball straight at Minato's first-year Kanna!

She ducks. She ducks. She ducks under it like it's a low branch on her walk home!

[breath]

And now Kanna has the ball. The smallest player on the court. Look at her face. She's not scared at all. If anything, she looks a little bored.

She throws. Oh, that's not a power throw. That's... that's a curve. It's curving! How is it curving?

Tetsuo is out. Tetsuo is out. The captain of Tetsuzan is out!

[beat]

Two players left on each side. Kanna is pointing at the other end of the court. Is she calling her shot? Is a first-year calling her shot in the national final?

[breath]

Folks, my co-commentator has fainted. I'm alone now. We go on. Here comes the ball. Kanna catches it. She takes a step. The crowd is on its feet. Minato Fishing High, this is your moment!

She throws!

[pause]

I have never seen anything like it!

Practice with these, record them, post them as demos or reels, use them in auditions. Please do not resell them as scripts. © VO Journey Academy · avosjourney.com