

the LA SCREENWRITER Logline Competition

Dear Sue,

Thank you for your submitting your logline to the LA Screenwriter Logline Competition for January, 2014. Below you'll find how your logline rated in six categories, why it rated that way, and our comments on your logline. Your overall rating was 41.5 out of a possible 60 points. We hope you find our analysis helpful and that you will send more loglines our way in the future.

Slide - Rating Summary					
Clear 8.0	Creative 7.0	Complete 6.0	Concise 6.0	Compelling 7.5	Commercial 7.0
Overall Rating: 41.5 out of 60					

Detailed Feedback for <u>Slide</u>	
Title:	<u>Slide</u>
Script Type:	Feature
Genre:	Action Thriller
Logline:	After a devastating mudslide destroys a small town, the captain of the volunteer fire department gathers the remaining citizens to help find not only the missing but his own family.
Comments	
	<p>This is a strong start to a compelling logline. The idea instantly brings to mind other disaster movies like <i>Dante's Peak</i>, <i>Twister</i>, or the classic <i>Towering Inferno</i>. Disaster movies usually do well, and I think this idea could draw a producer in.</p> <p>However, in order to really grab a producer or agent's attention, you'll have to make this logline more gripping. The most important parts of a script like this are going to be the main character and the trailer moments -- the most</p>

visually inventive, high stakes scenes that will end up in the movie trailer. Based on your current logline, I'm having trouble imagining what the trailer moments will be. Maybe make a list of your script's trailer moments and figure out if there's a way to incorporate the most important one into your logline.

Right now, the logline is a great length, and you have some room to make it a bit longer. When you rework it, I would start by taking a look at your description words and figuring out (1) which descriptors you really need and (2) if there are better options. For example, we can assume that a mudslide that destroys a town is pretty devastating, so you probably don't need that word in there. And "destroys" is rather mundane. How about "eviscerates" or "demolishes"? Also, when it comes to locations, it's easy to be specific in very few words, allowing you to paint a clearer picture. Is it a small Minnesota town? A Kentucky farming town? A quaint beach town?

I think the end of your logline would be more powerful if it read, "...to find the missing, including his own family."

Finally, I highly recommend reconsidering your title. "Slide" makes me think of playgrounds, not great action movies.

Hope this helps! Keep writing!

Ratings Feedback

Each category was scored out of 10 points.

Clear 8.0	Is the logline simple to read, easily understood, and grammatically correct?
	Your logline has clear and compelling sentence structure.
Creative 7.0	Does the idea presented feel unique OR like a fresh take on a common story type?
	I like the idea. It's somewhat derivative, but I can imagine the writer finding a new angle to explore.
Complete 6.0	Does the logline manage to get across all of the most important elements of the idea (the main character, the world, the problem, the stakes)?
	All of the major story elements are in place, but one or two feel lacking or poorly defined.
Concise 6.0	Is the logline high concept? Does it waste words? And is it no more than two sentences long (ideally one)?
	The logline uses primarily active language. The word choice reflects the tone, but isn't particularly exciting or compelling.

Compelling 7.5	Is the logline attention-grabbing? Does it use emotionally charged language and avoid clichés? (By “emotional” words, we mean words that evoke an emotional response in the reader.)
	The logline is a good length. It gets the story across without wasting many words or being too lacking in description.
Commercial 7.0	Would this idea draw the attention of producers, agents, or managers? Does it hit (ideally) all four quadrants?
	The idea is high concept, but somewhat derivative. Three or four quadrants might be interested, but the budget may be too big, or the idea may not be big enough.
Overall Rating 41.5	

We'll send you an email at the end of the month to let you know if you're our monthly winner or one of our two finalists (unless, of course, you chose to opt out of the contest). Remember that you can submit a revised version of your logline for further feedback with a new entry fee. If you get it to us by midnight on the 25th, it will be considered in the January contest (again, unless you choose to opt out). We wish you all the best as you develop this logline and your scripts!

Sincerely,
The LA Screenwriter Team