

Professor Elise Kermani - Media Arts  
M3 Assignment: Write a Script (Week 7)  
My Bowling Career's Historic Night - Back-to-Back 300 Games

By  
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Based on:  
My Real-Life Bowling Event  
Back-to-Back 300 Games - 3/8/2016  
181-300-300 - 781 Series

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FADE IN:

EXT. BOWLING ALLEY - LATE AFTERNOON

SHAUN (ME), Bowling Athlete, 22, Two-Handed Bowler, rides into the bowling alley parking lot with a confident, positive, and happy look on his face.

MY CAR DOOR SLAMS SHUT. MY BOWLING BALLS AND BAGS HIT THE GROUND.

FADE TO:

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT

It is a Tuesday League night at my local bowling center. League starts at 6:15pm. I am wearing my bowling league t-shirt and shorts. I walk into the bowling alley, and my bowling bags carrying my bowling balls are rolling behind me as I hold them in both hands. I look around the bowling center and see all of my bowling league friends. I breath in the atmosphere and bowling environment.

SHAUN

Tonight is going to be another  
great night of bowling! I know it!

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT - LANES 15 AND 16

I roll all my gear over to the lanes that I am bowling on tonight. I meet all my teammates, opposing team members and friends I am bowling with on lanes 15 and 16, where I am bowling on.

SHAUN

Hi guys! Nice seeing all of you!

I place my bowling bags on the floor near my lanes. I start unpacking some of my gear. I take my bowling shoes out of the bag's shoe compartment and put them on.

BOWLING EQUIPMENT LANDS ON THE BALL RETURN

Then, I grab my bowling balls out of my bag and place them on the ball return, along with my towel and rosin bag.

SHAUN

There we go. Now to wait for  
practice to start.

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I wait for practice to start. I talk with all my friends on other lanes to pass some time.

Practice starts.

BOWLING LANES TURN ON. LANE MACHINES ROAR. BOWLING BALLS ROLL DOWN THE LANE. PINS ARE BEING STRUCK WITH GREAT FORCE.

I start throwing my practice shots during the ten minutes of practice with my teammates Larry, David and Frank, and also my opposing team. As practice ends and the names get entered on the scoreboard, we all shake hands.

SHAUN

Good luck everyone! Bowl well!  
Let's get tonight started!

Game one starts and everyone starts bowling their frames. I bowl my frames when it is my turn. I bowl a strike in the first frame, followed by a spare. I get up in the third frame, and throw a decent shot off my hand but the bowling pins do not react to the contact of the ball. I leave a split and can not convert it. The whole first game is very rough and difficult to score in. I throw a lot of decent shots, but I can not carry all ten pins. I was getting "over/under" bowling ball reaction all game. I stand left and throw a shot, and the bowling ball will hook past the head pin and risk leaving a split. I stand further right and throw it straighter, and the bowling ball hooks through the head pin and I risk leaving a split. Game one is almost all spares and barely any strikes. I strike four times, with 6 spares and thankfully, only one open frame. I am very frustrated and I only shoot 181 in the first game of the night. I start to sweat and am getting nervous because my performance is off to a slow start.

SHAUN

Wow! I can not believe I just bowled a 181 that game. I guess it is time to start striking again and get my average up with a good couple last games. It is time to start fresh and try again.

I TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND RELAX MY NERVES

SHAUN

Game two, here we go! Let's start again guys!

Little did I know, that the next two games were going to be some of the best bowling I have ever done in my young career...

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Game two is about to begin. I shake off all of the bad bowling frames in game one and gain my positive mindset and composure back.

Game two starts and I start focusing a lot more than I thought I was in game one. I start looking at my target on the lane and go through my pre-shot routine intently. I start with a strike, and the rest is history.

Frames one through eleven all feel the same. I step up to the lanes to bowl my frames. I get to the ball return, I pick up my bowling ball, and I go through my pre-shot routine. I take some deep breaths, I clean my bowling ball, I dry my hands off with the air blower and my rosin bag, I step up on the approach with both hands on the ball, and I throw my shot. Every shot I am throwing is effortless and pure in the pocket. Ten pins going down every shot, leading me to the final (twelfth) ball of the game.

The bowling alley starts going quiet as I throw the tenth frame, with shots ten and eleven going down with ease. The crowd applauds with each strike, and now I get ready to throw the twelfth. A little self-talk/self-whisper, as I quietly get my confidence up and stress down before I step up to the lane.

SHAUN

OK. Time to redeem myself. Third time is a charm for 300. The other scores are in the past. Time to live in the present and shoot 300. Here we go!

The crowd is behind me. Video phones recording every second of my final shot. The pressure starts to mount. I take some more deep breaths. I do my pre-shot routine, I step on the lane, I walk up the approach and throw the ball. The ball is screaming down lane, with everyone cheering me on and for the last strike to fall.

MY BOWLING BALL HITS ALL TEN PINS. THE STRIKE IS HEARD THROUGHOUT THE CENTER. THE CROWD CHEERS AND APPLAUDS WITH HAPPINESS.

SHAUN

Redemption baby! Redemption! That's right! Come on!

HIGH FIVES AND HAND CLAPS ECHO THROUGHOUT LANES 15 AND 16

I am pumped up and ecstatic as I finally shot my 300 game in the league. I redeem the other 300 failures with one success. The 300 game in game two is achieved. I high-five

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and thank everyone for the support and get ready to move onto game three. My name and score is announced over the speaker system. There is still one more game left to go. Can I actually keep my streak of strikes going past twelve?

SHAUN

Alright... Here we go... One more game to end tonight on a positive note.

Game three starts to get underway. At this point as I wait for my turn, I think of how great the night has become and do not even think about what else that could possibly happen. I have no idea what is in store for game three, but it turns out that I would have an encore, a repeat performance, and share some history.

Game three started out the same. Strike after strike, all ten pins going down. It never occurred to me that I continued to extend my streak of strikes. Twelve in a row was plenty, especially because it was my eighth 300 game of my career. I can savor every other extra strike as they come, but to my surprise they were consecutive again. With each strike, more talk from my friends, my teammates, the league, and myself. Once again, the front nine, and I go into the tenth frame going for another 300 game. More importantly, it is for a special accomplishment that only a number of bowlers have achieved, back-to-back 300 games.

Deja vu all over again. I throw strikes ten and eleven, with even a bigger crowd swarming my bowling lanes with their video phones ready to record possible history. I visualize my target and do all the necessary things that I did in the previous game before throwing the last shot. This shot is for 24 strikes in a row, so I do my pre-shot routine and take a little extra time to make sure everything feels perfect.

The twelfth shot felt just as good as the twelfth shot in the last game. The ball rolls down the lane and looks on target. I hold my form and balance at the foul line to show that I like the shot.

BOOM! THE BOWLING BALL OBLITERATES THE PINS AS EVERYTHING IS SWEEPED OFF THE PIN DECK.

SHAUN

Yes! Yes! Yes! That's Right! Come on!

I scream louder than the last game. I am mauled by most of the bowling alley crowd as I walk back from the approach. The historic achievement is announced over the speaker

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system again. The happiness on my price is priceless. I take a picture of the recap sheet on the scoreboard and get a printout from the front desk.

One 300 was sweet victory, but a second 300 was the icing on the cake of adding my name into the history books. I am only the 22nd bowler in Adirondack USBC history to shoot back-to-back 300 games, something that I will never forget.

EXT. BOWLING ALLEY - LATE NIGHT

I exit the bowling center with a smile on my face, and bowling bags in my hands. As I turn around, I smile and cherish the event that just occurred hours ago. A night that started with a bitter 181, ends with perfection. 24 straight strikes in 24 attempts, back-to-back 300 games, and nothing but sheer happiness and positivity, overlooking the luck and skill required to make it happen in the first place.

FADE OUT.

THE END