

I'm Jaclyn Whitt, a former homeschooling mom, now an award-winning screenwriter and the Co-Director of Family Friendly Screenwriting Academy. Ironically, I barely passed English in high school. When I was young, I never once dreamt of writing movies - although I did dream of starring in them and composing the film scores for them. Writing movies seemed so far out of my realm of opportunity that it didn't even occur to me to pursue it, despite writing short plays since I was eleven years old.



For me, writing paragraphs and learning to elaborate was mentally exhausting, but I could write incredible dialogue. Despite having a pretty decent vocabulary, I struggled with reading. (Even as an adult, I joke that I'm a writer, not a speller.) In school, if I was given the choice, I'd complete assignments by writing a song or producing a film a project.

It was easier for me to write a song and sing it for my class than to write a 1000 word essay.

Looking back, with the life lessons and experience I have now, I realize...

In music, acting, and film production, my grades were in the high 90's. But in my classes that required me to do a lot of reading and writing, my grades were in the 60's and 70's. My teachers often said that my grades did not reflect my intellect.

For this reason, I want to encourage those highly creative people who wish they had what it takes to sit down and write out their ideas, to consider screenwriting.

...that my
brain processes
information quite
well, but just not in
the way that school
was asking me to.

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