**Page 2 is a guide for writing your interview story.** Create a new document based upon this template for each story you write (i.e., don’t try to combine them all in this same document).

**Stick to the following rules and concepts for writing your interview story and you’ll find success!**

1. **Connect your story to your résumé.** This story should represent something in your résumé. That is what the interviewer will be working from when you talk.
2. **Write from the end to the beginning**. Yes, start at the bottom section of the following page and write *Results*. Then write *Actions*, then *Background*, etc. This is very important! It will dispel writer’s block and keep your story focused.
3. **Do not exceed the text box sizes**. They are intentionally smallish. Your story should be told in about 90 seconds (no less than 2 minutes)
4. **Build Drama into your story**. Great story writers use the same method you have here; the components just go by different names.
**Background**: In dramatic writing, this is an uncomfortable tension in the story
**Action**: In drama, this is activity related to the tension, carried out by the champion or hero (you!)
**Result**: In drama, this is the resolution of the initial tension.

***Example:*** *Consider the classic movie, Armageddon. Background: An asteroid is going to hit the earth in 18 days. Action: Harry Stamper, played by Bruce Willis, leads a crew of experienced earth core as they learn to be astronauts, land on the asteroid, and embed a nuclear bomb into the core of the asteroid in order to blow it up. Result: Everyone remaining on the asteroid gets out alive in the end except for the hero himself, who prevents the bomb from blowing up while the rest of the crew escapes. He gave his life to save them.*

1. **Here are fuller definitions**.
**Background**: A problem you resolved
**Action**: What you did
**Results**: What came out of it? What was different after you were done? How did it end?

**Finally, make the story sticky**. It must be relevant and memorable to your audience. Here’s some advice:

* Target your audience
	+ Know the company
	+ Know the interviewer
	+ Know the position
* Make it relevant
	+ Employers only care about what value you created and how it can be applied to them.
	+ Choose stories related to the posted job description.
* Do not memorize!
	+ You should know this well story enough that you don’t need to tell it verbatim.
	+ To the interviewer your experience, not your words, should be coming from your memory.

**Title (Very brief description of the accomplishment. For your eyes only, to trigger your memory.)**

**Keywords (Words that might be in the interviewer’s question. For your eyes only, to trigger your memory.)**

**Background (The problem you solved. Why did you do this? Build it up! Draw them in!)**

**Actions (What did you do? This is the part they will really remember. Wow them!)**

**Results (Outcomes? Objective and quantifiable as possible. Show business impact and value!)**