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## Editing Creative Manuscripts—Becoming a Multimodal Entity: From Manuscript to Multimodality

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# Editing Creative Manuscripts—Becoming a Multimodal Entity

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## From Manuscript

to

## Multimodality

### 1: Looking at the Manuscript

- Ask yourself some questions. What stands out to you? Do you find yourself wanting to develop a character, a scene, or thought?
  - Do you have a good image in your mind?
  - Can you “hear” it?
  - Are you trying to understand a character better?
- These questions can be explored with digital tools!

### 2: Mockups and Storyboards

- Now you have a fuzzy image of a digital affordance. What now? Markup!
- Draw the image from your mind. (You don’t have to be an artistic person!)
  - Single step? Create a mockup!
  - Multiple steps? Create a storyboard!
- Are you using material from the creative manuscript? Mark the sections/scenes you want to use!

### 3: Check out digital affordances!

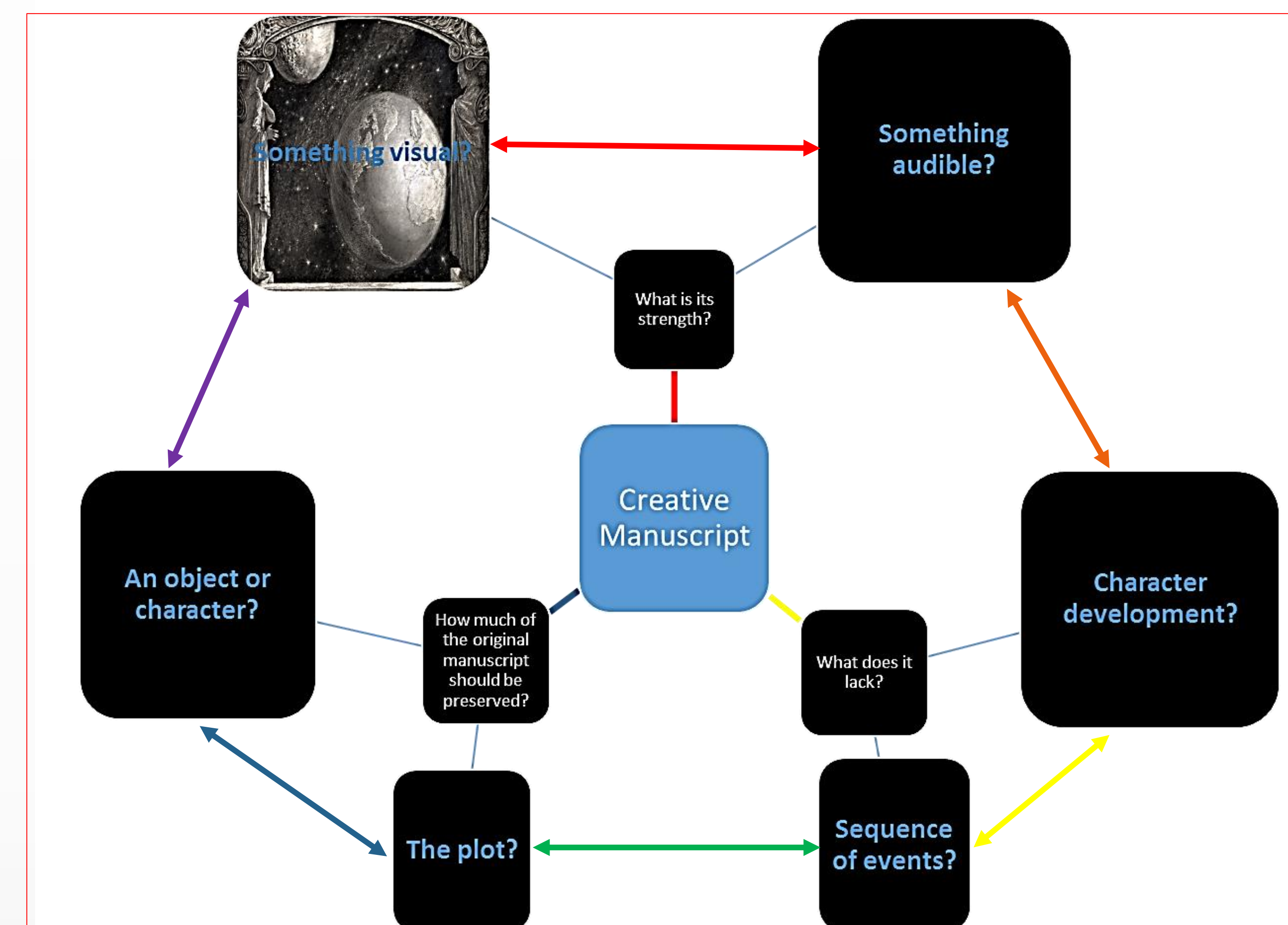
<https://medium.com/@purplekimchi/cfp-14-reasons-to-write-your-next-academic-paper-as-a-listicle-9089462849c6#.6jrwimtg>

<http://vegapublish.com/>

<https://github.com/explore>

<http://wordhoard.northwestern.edu/userman/index.html>

<http://swinburnearchive.indiana.edu/swinburne/study.jsp>



- Depending on the depth of your multimodal project, different areas might overlap. For example, you want to expand the plot. Audio elements like music can contribute to plot development.
- Literature analysis techniques can lead you to the project you want.

### 4: Understand Your Resources

- Do you have a digital design background?
  - Yes? Great! You can create your digital project now! Good luck!
  - No? Me either! The job of an editor includes a little project management. The least experienced person can draw a mockup or storyboard. Envision what you want and talk to the author about this vision. Think about the story, think about the audience, and think about the digital effects that lend themselves to your project. Recommend further assistance with web managers and designers.

### Conclusions

- Editing a creative manuscript to create the desired digital affordance(s) can be simple or complex.
- It begins with a careful analysis of the manuscript’s strengths and weaknesses. Once you’ve figured out what you want from the manuscript, you can make markup that fits your vision. Alternative forms sometimes call for alternative markup, so don’t be afraid to draw stick figures and squiggly marks in your mockup or storyboard!
- In this digital age, new tools are constantly being created. Look around on the Internet; talk to web designers and communication professionals; envision a new world of communication.