Manga Script Format · Quick Reference

PAGE 12 (left-hand page · 5 panels)
Page header: number, which side of the spread, how many panels.

Description
Present tense. One moment per panel. What the artist has to show.

KOHARU (THOUGHT) / (SMALL) / (OFF)
Modifiers: thought balloon, whisper, speaker off-panel.

PANEL 1 (wide, top third)
Panel line: number, then size or shot.

KOHARU: Line.
Dialogue: name in caps. Keep each balloon short.

CAPTION: / SFX:
Narration boxes and sound effects, written as lettered.

EXAMPLE: TWO PAGES (invented series)

CROSSWIND CLUB · Chapter 1 “Dead Air” · script, draft 2

PAGE 17 (left-hand page · last page before the turn · 4 panels)

PANEL 1 (wide, top third)
Establishing. The riverbank seen from the top of the levee. TOMOE stands alone at the water’s edge, line taut, her kite a small red-and-white diamond high above the bridge. KOHARU is halfway down the levee steps, map in hand.

CAPTION: Tuesday, 4:10 p.m.

TOMOE: Wind’s turning.

PANEL 2 (medium shot, Tomoe)
Tomoe glances upriver, frowning.

TOMOE (SMALL): …Not now.

PANEL 3 (small inset)
Close on a second kite rising beyond the bridge: black, one white stripe.

SFX: fwap fwap

PANEL 4 (wide, bottom · page-turn panel)
Koharu in profile, eyes widening as she tracks the black kite. Keep the sky above her empty; the reader sees the threat only after the turn.

KOHARU (THOUGHT): It’s heading straight for hers.

PAGE 18 (right-hand page · first page after the turn · 3 panels)

PANEL 1 (half page, full width · the reveal)
Low angle from the bank. The black kite slices across Tomoe’s line. Her kite snaps free and spins away into the sun.

SFX (BIG, ACROSS THE PANEL): SHNK

PANEL 2 (medium)
Tomoe, the cut line slack in her hands, staring up.

TOMOE: …

PANEL 3 (small, bottom)
On the bridge railing, a boy in another school’s uniform winds in his reel, half smiling. SHUN.

SHUN: Still flying the old design, Ishiwata?

NOTE: *First time we see Shun’s face. Keep his reel in frame; it pays off in chapter 6.*

Manga Script Page

one sheet per page · litmemo.com

Title / chapter	Page no.	Left / right	Panels on this page	Draft

	Description (what we see)	Dialogue · captions · SFX (NAME: line)
PANEL 1 size / shot _____		
PANEL 2 size / shot _____		
PANEL 3 size / shot _____		
PANEL 4 size / shot _____		
PANEL 5 size / shot _____		
PANEL 6 size / shot _____		

Last panel on a left-hand page (right-to-left manga): the moment that makes the reader turn. Leave unused panels blank.