

BEST/WORST SCENARIO WORKSHEET

First, make a note of the situation and the possible actions/outcomes.

Situation: Bob breaks his leg and might not make the football team.		
	Action	Outcome/Reaction
A	Mary promises he will recover	Bob's leg recovers on time
B	Mary is realistic and says he might not be well enough to make the try-outs	Bob's leg does not recover on time

Then, work out what the consequences of each combination will be. This will let you see which situations are most likely to result in your characters staying friends/falling out/the world ending/zombie apocalypse etc.

	Combination	Resulting Story
1	Action A followed by Outcome A Mary promises he will recover Bob's leg recovers on time	Bob is fine and he and Mary are happy. Bob makes the team and marries Mary.
2	Action A followed by Outcome B Mary promises he will recover Bob's leg does not recover	Bob is frustrated at Mary because she promised he would be okay. Bob's career is over and he breaks up with Mary.
3	Action B followed by Outcome A Mary is realistic Bob's leg recovers on time	Bob is fine, but feels Mary is not being supportive. They argue, but when he makes the team, he sees that she was right.
4	Action B followed by Outcome B Mary is realistic Bob's leg does not recover	Bob's career is over. He and Mary fight, but she is always supportive. She encourages him to try out at a later date.

Notes:

Scenario 1 is the best-case scenario.

Scenario 2 is the worst case.

Scenarios 3 or 4 make for the best conflict - resolvable but not easy.