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SOUTH AFRICA  
an agency of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture



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## YFP 2: Theme

### HOME

People have the uncanny ability to impose bits and pieces of themselves in spaces and places. Calling them **HOME**. With “home” being intimately tied to our sense of identity and self definition. What lengths do we go to in order to seek out homes that belong to us? What do we become when we are cracked open at a time of need?

Home refers to where you feel you belong. Ideologies on love, food, family, growth, self, rest, care, grief are formed. The untold stories, secrets hidden in the chambers within. Filmmakers can explore and create stories centred around these themes: class struggles, belonging, individual vs society, fighting for justice, chaos vs order, quest for power, humanity vs technology. Use your imagination to explore the impact and perception formed according to the place you call home. Exploring the Possibilities and impossibilities, positive and negative impacts of home. The homes we come from and the homes we have found along the way, the homes we create for ourselves - the different perceptions of a home. How we handle different life situations and deal with people. What is your place called home?

There's multiple genres you can draw from such as; Drama, comedy, romance, action, sci fi etc can be explored in the setting of modern day Africa

Exploring the theme of "home" in a short film offers a myriad of creative opportunities. Here are several approaches you could consider, **feel free to go beyond this:**

**Physical vs. Emotional Home:** Contrast the physical space of a house with the emotional concept of home. Show a character who feels disconnected or lost even within the comfort of their own home. This could involve juxtaposing images of the character's physical surroundings with their inner emotional state.

**Finding Home in Unlikely Places:** Tell the story of someone who discovers a sense of belonging and home in unexpected places or with unexpected people. This could involve a character who feels like an outsider until they find a community or a sense of purpose.

**Loss of Home:** Explore the theme of displacement or loss by depicting a character who has lost their home (the physical or emotional sense of home) due to circumstances beyond their control. This could be through eviction, natural disaster, or other means. Show how the character copes with this loss and ultimately finds a new sense of home.



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**Cultural and Personal Identity:** Explore how one's cultural background and personal experiences shape their understanding of home. This could involve a character grappling with their cultural identity and the tension between their heritage and their current surroundings.

**The Journey Home:** Frame the story around a character's physical journey back to their home. This could involve a literal journey or a metaphorical one.

**Home as a Sanctuary:** Depict the home as a safe haven from the outside world. Explore how the characters' relationships with each other and their environment create a sense of security and comfort. This could involve themes of family, friendship, or community.

**Environmental Home:** Explore the relationship between humans and their natural environment. Show how characters connect with nature and find a sense of home in the wilderness or in rural landscapes.

Ultimately, the key to exploring the theme of home in a short film is to create relatable characters and compelling narratives that resonate with audiences on a personal level. Whether through visuals, dialogue, or symbolism, aim to evoke the complex emotions and experiences associated with the concept of home. Reimagine HOME in all Universes.