William Lyon Mackenzie C.I. 2012 AWS3M

GRADE 11 DIGITAL MEDIA

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Film Workshop

Angles and Composition:

 *Important things to know*

-The low angle is a camera angle that **looks up at a character**. This is the opposite of a high angle and makes a character look more powerful.

-The high angle is a camera angle that looks **down upon a subject**. A character shot with a high angle will look vulnerable or small.

-The eye-level angle puts the audience on **an equal footing with the character/s**. This is the most commonly used angle in most films as it allows the viewers to feel comfortable with the characters.

-The bird’s eye angle is an angle that looks **directly down upon a scene**. This angle is often used as an establishing angle.

-The Dutch or Canted angle is an angle that is achieved by **tilting the camera off to the side**. It is often used to portray the psychological uneasiness or tension in the subject being filmed.

-The worm’s eye angle is an angle from the **view of an object from below**. It is used in filming to look up to something to make an object look tall, strong and mighty.

Lighting:

*Important things to know*

-The key light is the **first and usually most important light** in a lighting setup. It highlights the form and dimension of the subject.

-The fill light is used to **reduce the contrast** of a scene and provide some illumination for the areas of the image that are in shadow.

-The back light is used to **illuminate the background** area of a set. It also provides separation between the subject and the background.

Sound (Diegetic vs. Non-Diegetic):

-Diegetic sound is sound that occurs in film that is **natural.** These sounds include doors opening and closing, footsteps, dialogue etc. Imagine that the film is real. If you could hear that sound in real life, it is diegetic.

-Non-diegetic sound is sound that is **added to the film during editing**. These sounds include music and songs that are added to the film, narration and special effects.

Editing:

*Important things to know*

-A jump cut is a cut in film editing where two sequential shots of the same subject are taken from camera positions that **vary only slightly**.

-A montage is a technique in film editing in which a series of short shots are **edited into a sequence** to condense space, time, and information.

-A cutaway occurs when a scene that is shot continuously is **interrupted by another piece of footage**.

-A dissolve is when one scene **slowly fades** into another. This is often done to show the link between two scenes or the **passing of time**.

The Basics of Screen Writing

-Listen to Your Imagination.

-Listen and Observe the World Around You.

-Brainstorm. A LOT.

-Visualize your main characters as actual people.

-Understand the “Three Act Structure”.

-Study the proper screenplay format.

-Write a first draft of your screenplay in three pages.

-Then rewrite, rewrite, rewrite, rewrite, rewrite, rewrite, rewrite. Screenplay writing is all about the rewrite.