

FILM LANGUAGE

Produced by Grade 12 Lower Canada College Students



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Continuity

Jamie Mayers

What is continuity?

The unbroken and consistent existence or operation of something over a period of time



Script Supervisor

Costumes (Wardrobe)



watchmojo.com

Hair/Makeup





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SPIDER-MAN™



Spider-Man 3
Hair style changes



Scenery (Set)





Spider-Man
Lamp reappears





Spider-Man
Windows mend themselves after fight





Script Supervisor

What do they need to do before the shoot?

- Understand the script and the director's vision
- Time the script to get an idea of the film duration
- Breakdown the script to get each department's needs in terms of continuity
- Get the chronology of the story (over which period of time is the story told?)

On set

Follow the lines and actions to be sure that all content is covered, observe all actions and manipulations of objects

Closer shots have to match with the large/master shot. This is called a *match on action*.



Action and movement



Spider-Man
Heads change angles



Spider-Man 2
Different arm high, head on different shoulder



Observe the evolution of all visual and sound elements into each scene, but also from scene to scene: hair, make-up, costumes, accessories, light, and camera movements

Help the camera department with information on
the clap

After the shot

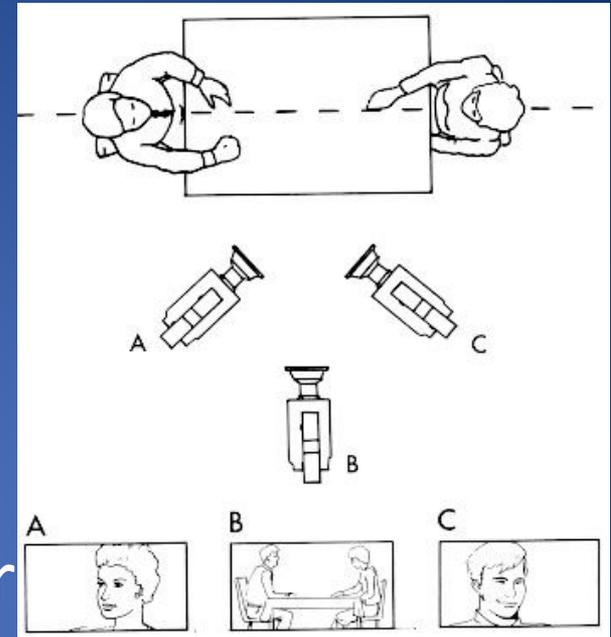
Take extensive notes about the shot for the editor: number of shots, takes, duration, memory card and lenses used, comments from the director, DOP and the sound engineer

After the shot

Check the focus on the monitor, especially the
eyes







amer



A's left shoulder

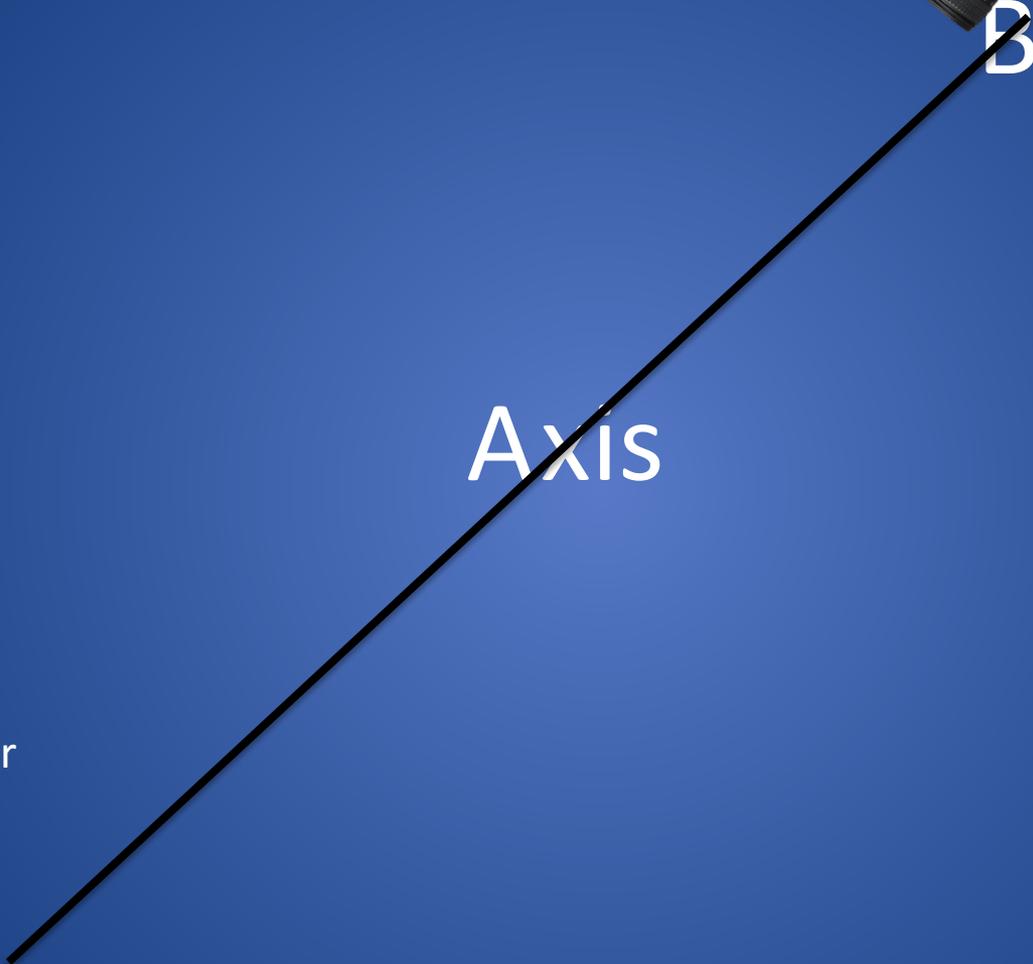


B's right shoulder

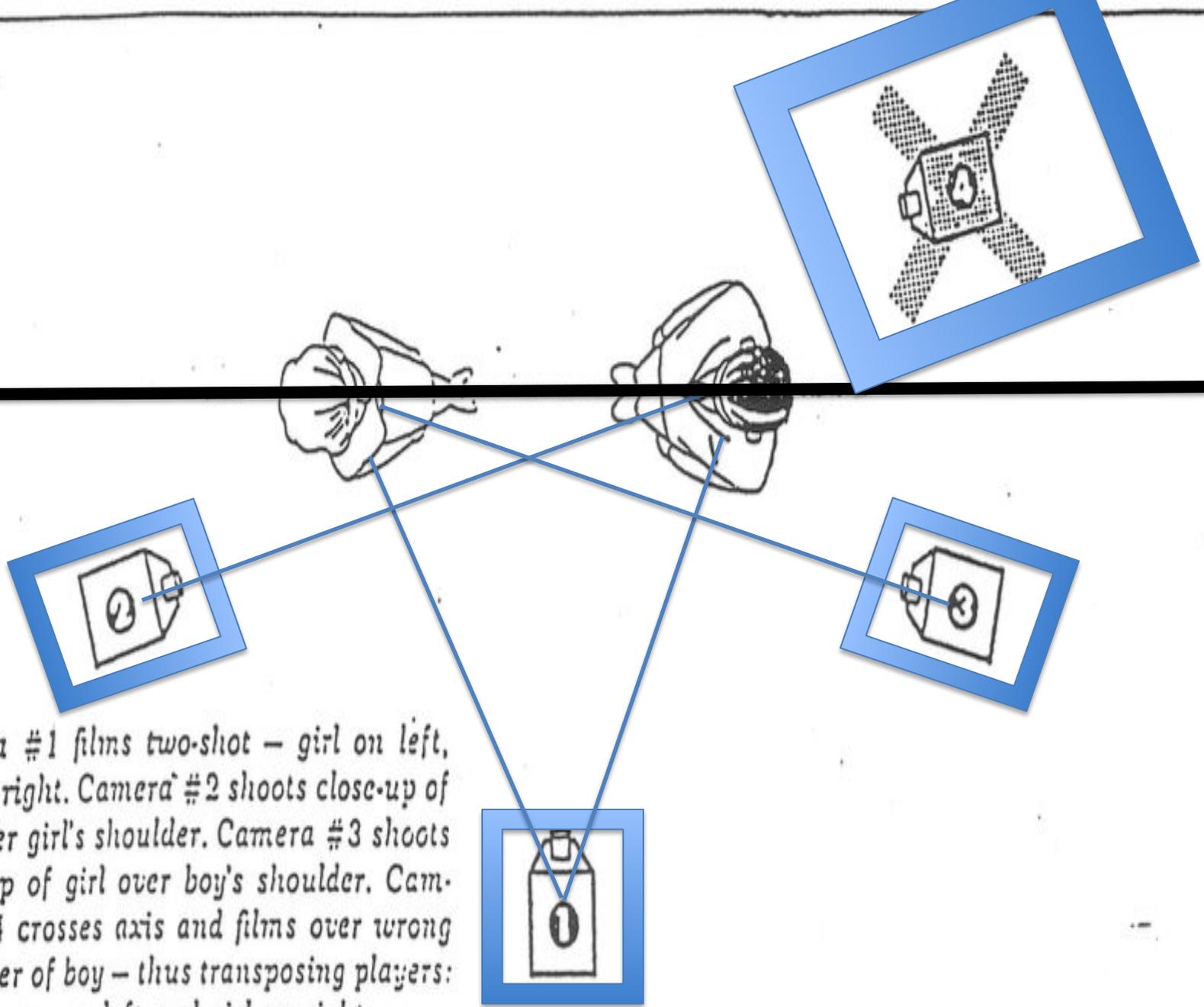


B

Axis



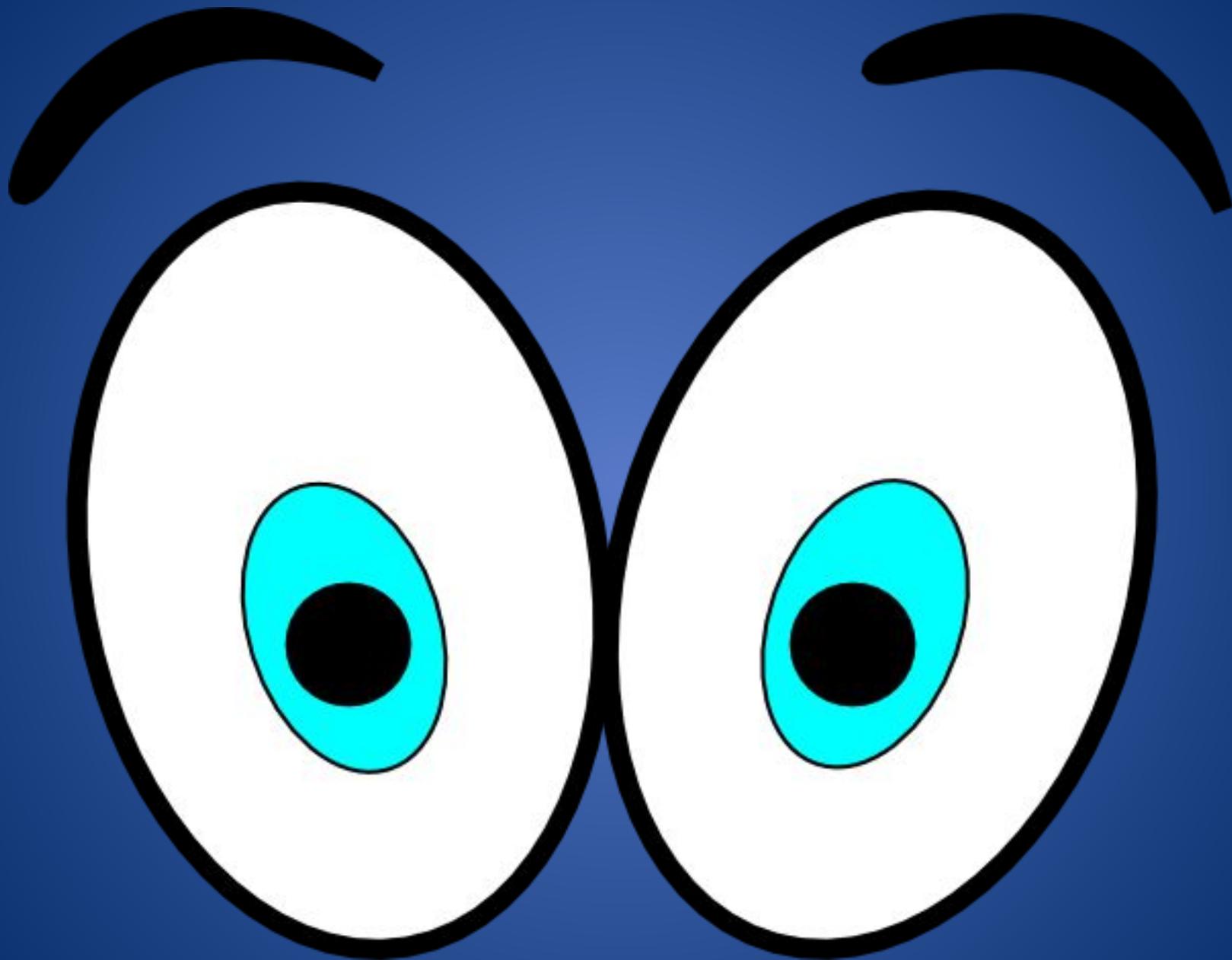




Camera #1 films two-shot — girl on left, boy on right. Camera #2 shoots close-up of boy over girl's shoulder. Camera #3 shoots close-up of girl over boy's shoulder. Camera #4 crosses axis and films over wrong shoulder of boy — thus transposing players: boy is now on left and girl on right.

More than 2 characters





Breakdown the scene

Long sequence shot

Continuity

“All the material has to be edited properly; so all of the shots have to match. If they don't, the director could choose the only one take that matches, but if that take is not the best in terms of acting, for example, it can really affect the film.”

- Patrick Aubert



Camera Movement



“Motion Creates Emotion”

- The use of Motion in film is one of the most important factors mainly because this creates the setting and mood for that particular scene.
- A slow stabilized tracking shot can make a scene look epic and a fast and shaky shot can give a scene a thrilling effect.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kt1JkoAf0-4>

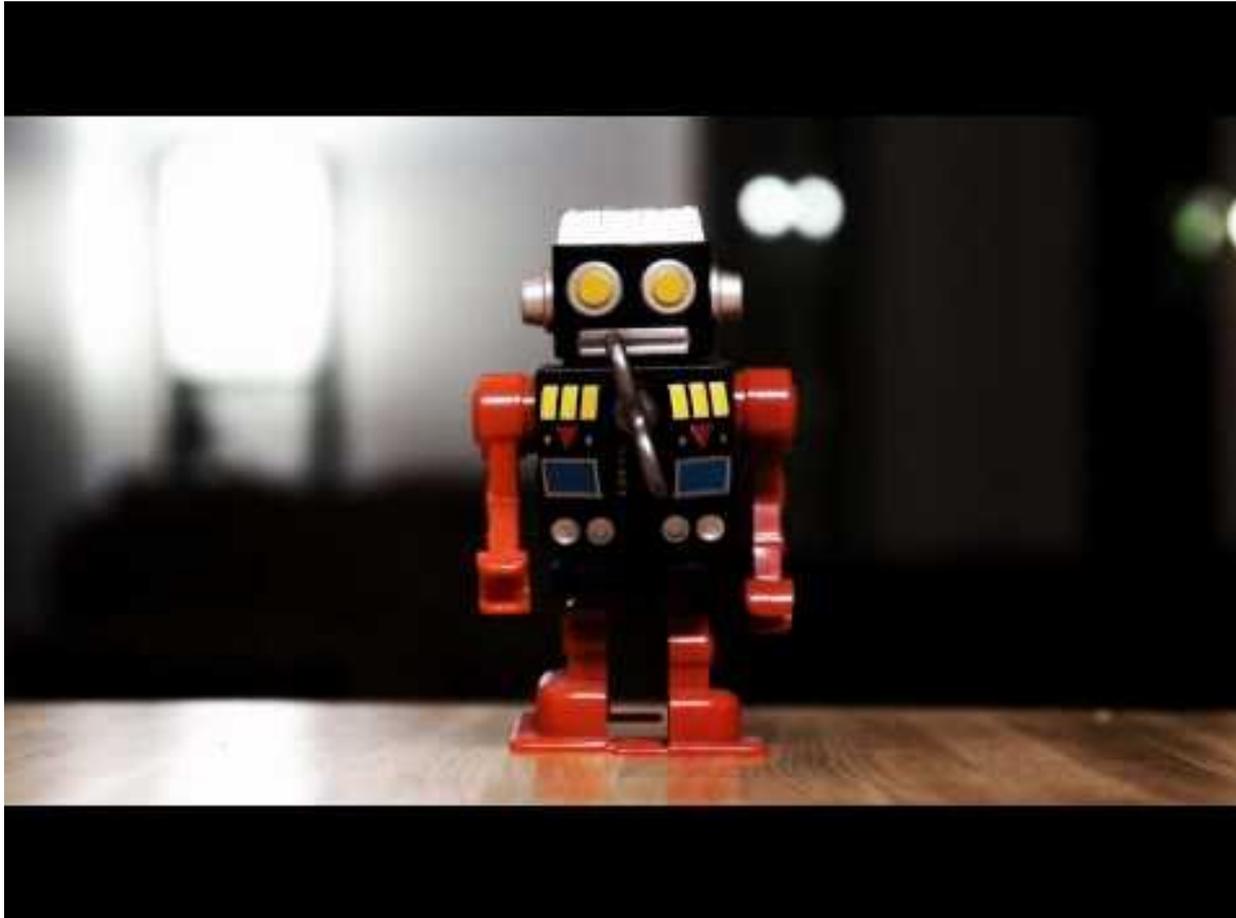
Equipment Used

- Sliders : Parallel Movement
- Monopods : Horizontal/Vertical Pan
- Stabilizers : Tracking/Action Shots
- Dolly/(Dolly) Cranes/Jibs/Boom : Overhead and High Shots/High Speed Tracking/Wide Angle Parallel Movement

Movements in Film

- Tilting and Panning.
 - <https://youtu.be/R9JWgU9YVcU>
- Zooming (Ken Burns Effect in editing)
- Pedestal (similar to tilting)
- Trucking and Dolly/Crane or Jib
 - <https://youtu.be/ftnxSDKqIvg>
- Steadicam/Stabilizer/GlideCam (aka Sled and Vest)
 - <https://youtu.be/uBLccEDmn40>
 - Devin Graham is one of the best at operating the glidecam
- Handheld (different possibilities)

Interesting Film Motion



Other Factors that Affect Motion

- Focus

- Whether your subject is in focus or out of focus creates two very different scenes.
- You can use focus as an effect in an opening scene as a complement to your camera movement.
- Focus is also important in camera movement as camera movements sometimes cause subjects to go out of focus.
- You can use AF/AI Servo on basic DSLRs but there are extra equipment used for cinematic cameras that helps the camera pull focus. This includes focus rings.

Essentials in Film

- To create fluidity in film
 - Shutter Speed should be twice the “fps”. (e.g. shooting at 24fps and having shutter speed at 1/48). This might mean overexposure in some cases and requires an ND filter.
 - However, this depends on situation and it is just a common rule that is not always used. Intense actions scenes might use a higher shutter speed to create a stuttering effect. Cinematic sequences might use a lower shutter speed to create a far more blurry effect.

Speed

- Fast Motion : Overview and introductory
- Slow Motion : Attention to detail and epic action

Examples of Use of Fast Motion

- Timelapses
- Creates excitement and intensity
- Example (<https://youtu.be/bStq61Y0zU0?t=33s>)
 - A video game effect is present and it makes the entire sequence more tensed than it would be in normal speed.

Equipment

- Any camera and a good computer that processes things well

Examples of Use of Slow Motion

- Introductory Establishing Shot (makes things epic)
- Action Shots (Athlete Actions/Replay)
- Cinematic Effect
- E.g. The Matrix/300
- Slow Motion makes everything look cinematic. For example, <https://youtu.be/tYhJErwSUJw?t=3m57s>

Equipment for Slow Motion

- Cameras with slow motion capability (60fps and more)
- If filmed at 60fps and editing in 24fps, 40% motion speed creates the best effect
- Editing Software
- Phantom Cameras
 - Films up to 1,000,000 fps but at low resolution
 - For at least FHD, it goes to about 800-2000fps depending on camera
 - Perspective, Canon 7D Mark II does 60fps at FHD (\$2,000), RED Weapon 8K does 150fps at UHD

Question 1

-What kinds of camera movements would you use in a scene where a subject is being chased by someone?

- 1.) Monopod
- 2.) Dolly
- 3.) Tripod
- 4.) Stabilizer

Question 2

-How do you ensure fluidity in your shots?

Give an example of when you would not need fluidity in your scene.

- 1.) with the use of equipment
- 2.) by changing the ISO of the camera
- 3.) by setting the right fps before shooting video
- 4.) by getting the shutter speed right on the camera

Question 3

Which would give the best slow motion?

- 1.) 24fps
- 2.) 30fps
- 3.) 60fps
- 4.) 120fps

Question 4

Why is it important to create motion in film?

Question 5

Why is focus important in film? How can you make use of focus as an effect?

Example from X-men

“The extraction”

https://youtu.be/J9rE_Bk0Ygc?t=25s



Editing

Double click to edit



What is Editing?

- **Putting Shots and scenes together in order to tell the story of the film**



Terminology

Transitions

Fade

Cuts

Montage

Cross
Fade

s

Cross
Dissolve

Pace

Cutaway

s

Split Edits

Shots

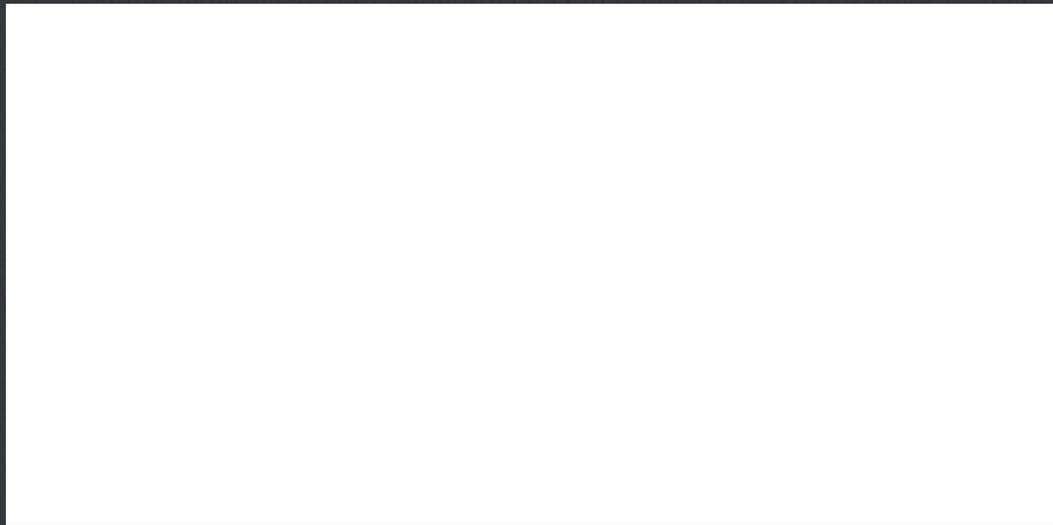
- **Individual portions of a film that are shot separately**
- **Alone, they do not tell a story**
- **Together... they do**

Transitions

- **The movement from one shot to the other.**

Fade out/Fade in

- A way to gradually begin or end a scene by moving from darkness to light or light to darkness.



Fade to Color

- **Fading the color from one shot to the other so that it creates an ambiance in the film**



Cross Dissolve/Fade

- One shot fades out while the next shot fades in, so it's superimposed for a second



Jump Cut

- **Abrupt transition forsaking continuity, where some frames are taken out of a sequence in order to make the subject appear to suddenly “jump” from one spot or point in time to another**



Swish Pan

- One scene changes to another in a blurry motion--making the camera appear to be moving rapidly from right to left (or visa verse)



Montage

- **Collections of a series of scenes in order to paint a larger, connected story**



Hip Hop Montage

- **Rapidly edited montages to give key detailed information in a short amount of time**



Parallel Editing/Match Cut

- **The cutting and splicing of two or more related actions occurring at the same time in two different locations or points in time**



Pace

- **Ensure that the pace of your film is consistent throughout, as sudden changes in pace are unnerving and ostracize the viewer**



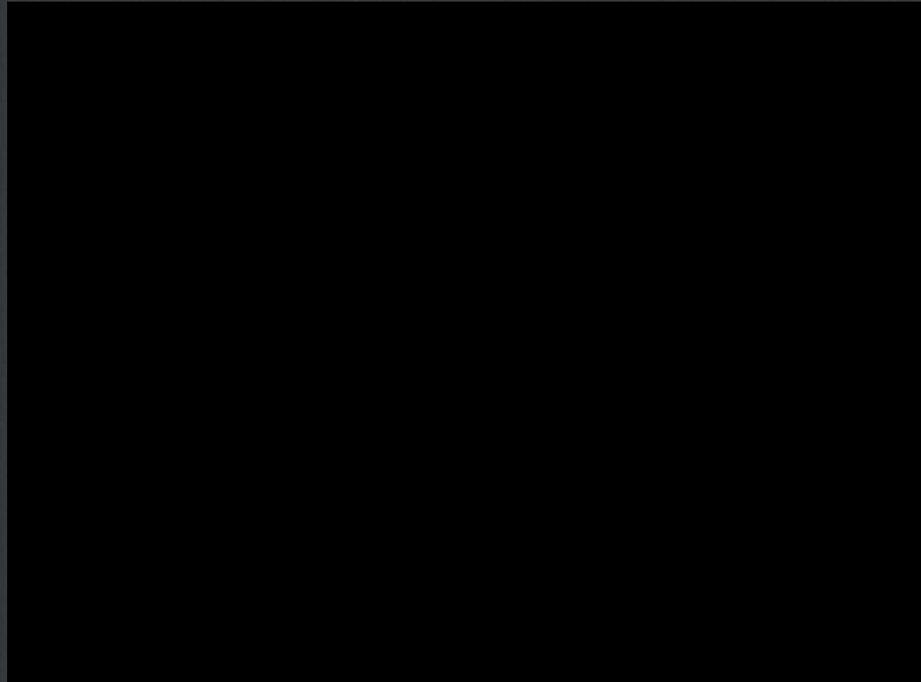
Intersplice

- **Place one shot quickly in between two consecutive shots so that it shows a subliminal image without breaking continuity**



Freeze Frame

- Effect wherein a single frame stays on screen for long enough to appear “frozen”



What not to do



Light & Color

Lee & Greg

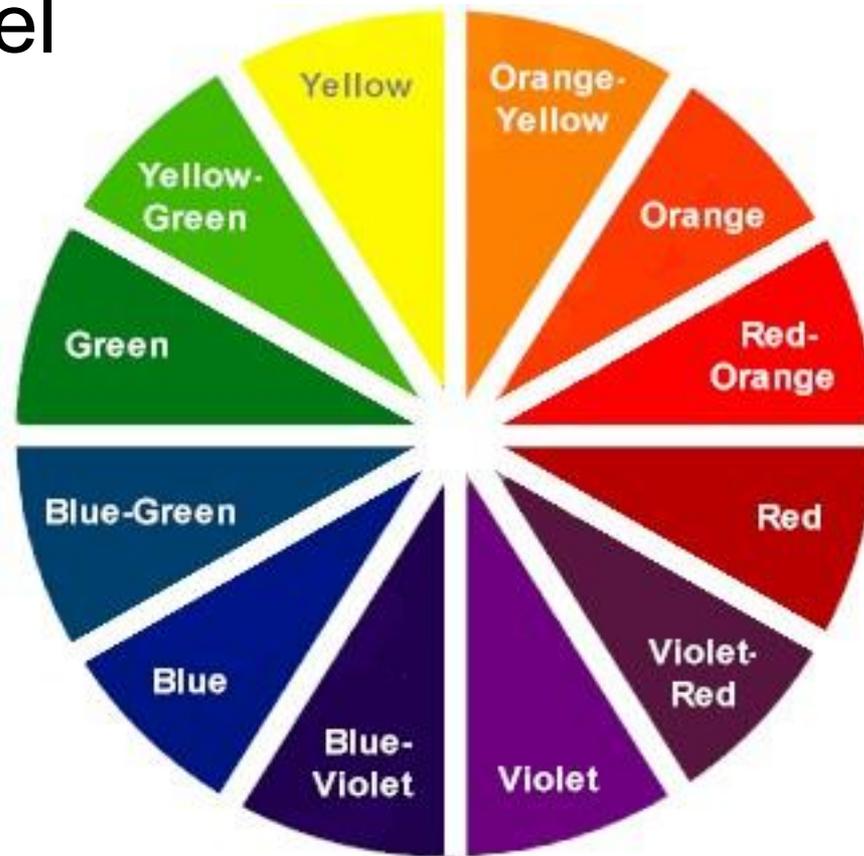
September 14, 2016



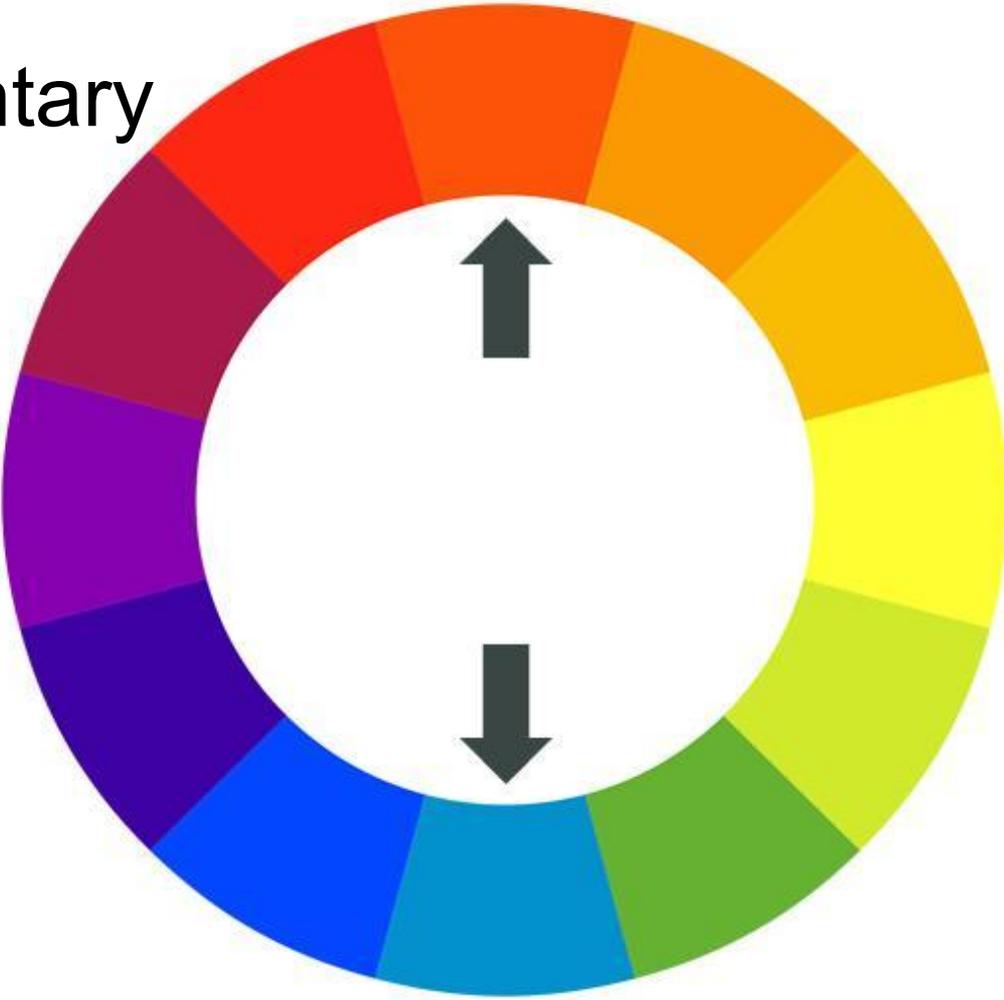
The Color Wheel



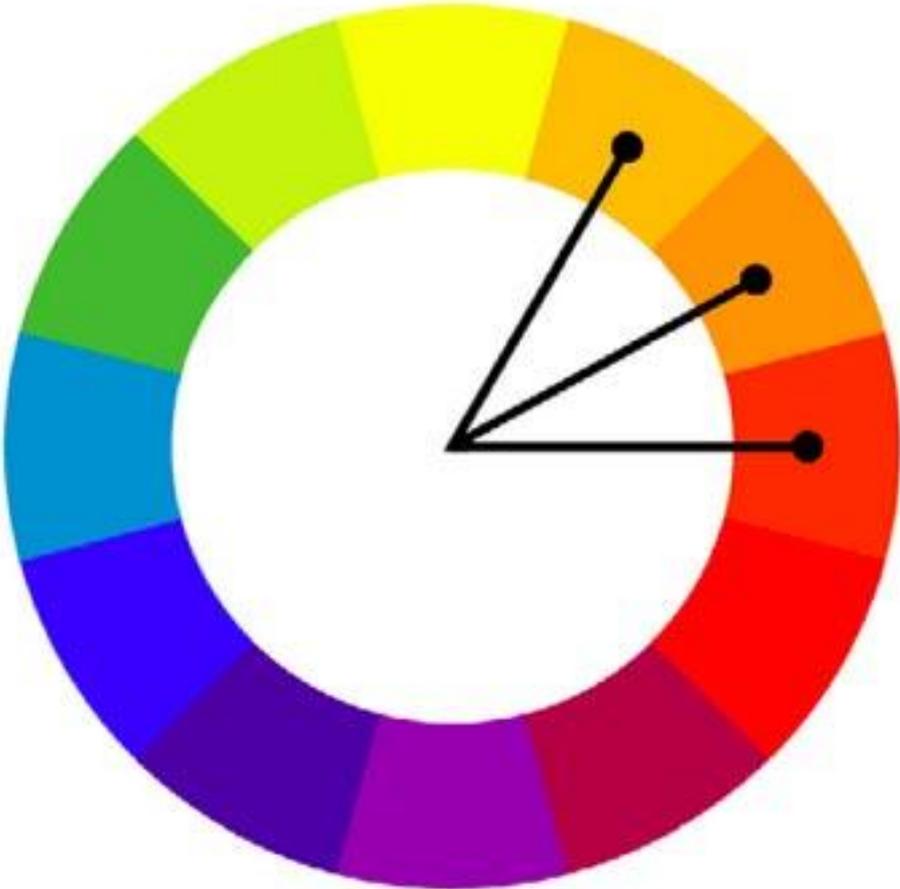
Colour Wheel



Complimentary



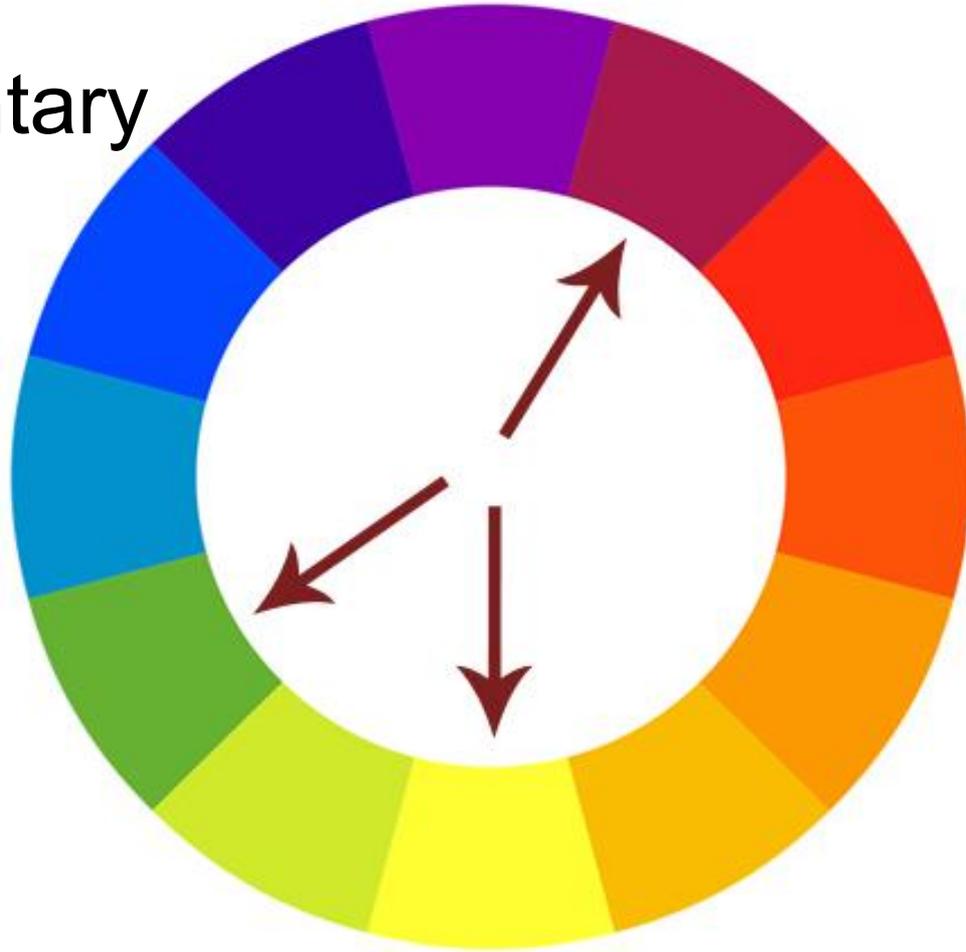
Analogous



Triadic

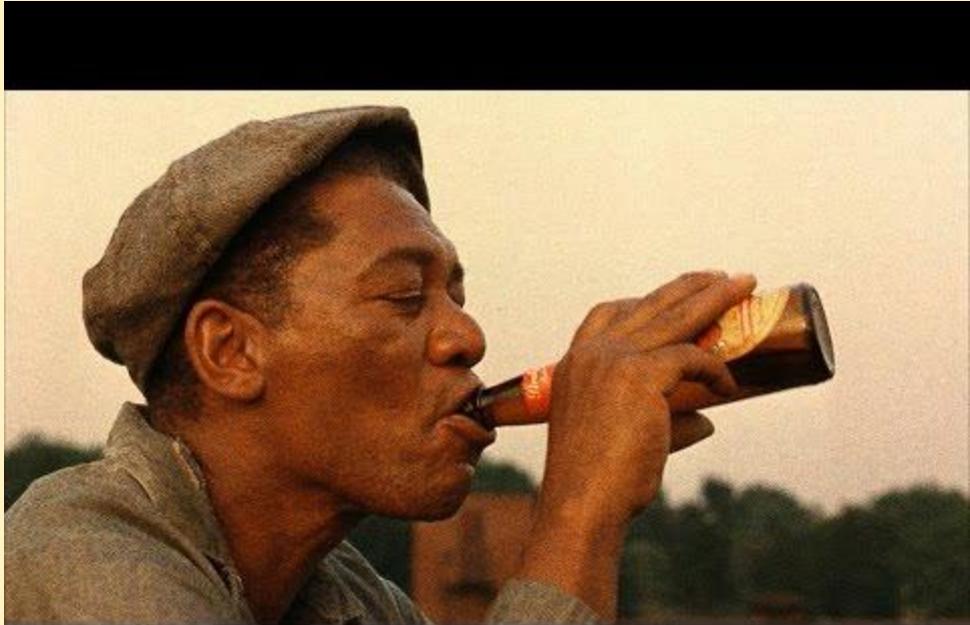


Split Complementary



INTERSTELLAR







Film: Limitless

Before the drug

Grey skies: Depressing day to help set the mood

After the drug

Golden tint: Highlights background taking away the dullness of his surroundings

Facial features: Face has more color to it, making him seem more uplifted



F HD

Film: Schindler's List

Black & White tone

- Allows for color to be noticed immediately indicating an important scene
- Dull/ depressing feeling
- Impacts the feeling of the World War II era
- Strongly suggests the difference between the good and evil



SOUND

Jessica Brender & Simone Saputo



PURPOSE

- Enhance the film's message
- Enable the viewer to have a more in depth connection

FOLEY SOUND

- Created by Jack Foley
- The process of adding sound to a film after it was recorded
- Using props that are different than what is on the screen
- Ex: In Jurassic Park, the sound of the T-Rex was a dog chewing on a dog toy



“REAL SOUNDS”



- Natural/Diegetic
 - Ex: Dialogue, rain falling and waves breaking



SYNCHRONOUS AND ASYNCHRONOUS SOUND

- Synchronous:
 - Sound that matches what is shown on the screen
 - Ex: dialogue & footsteps
- Asynchronous:
 - Sound that comes from something that is not shown on the screen to add tension and mystery
 - Ex: tree branch snapping

Example of Asynchronous Sound



MOOD

- The mood of the music can guide the audience into believe what the director wanted
- Ability to mislead an audience
 - Ex: Using a high pitch voice in a song, the audience assumes the character is female

CINÉMA-VÉRITÉ

- Appeals to the audience
- Very realistic sound quality



DIEGETIC SOUND

- Sound that we see on the screen
- We hear what the characters hear



NON-DIEGETIC SOUND

- Non-Diegetic Sound:
 - Sound that was added
 - Ex: voiceovers and background music



MUSIC

- Used the set the scene and mood
 - Hits/“Mickey Mousing”
 - Contrapuntal music
 - Parallel music
 - Leitmotif
 - Sound bridge
 - Silence



HITS/“MICKEY MOUSING”

- When the music matches perfectly what is in the scene



CONTRAPUNTAL MUSIC

- Music that contradicts what is being shown on the screen



PARALLEL MUSIC

- Music matches what's on screen



LEITMOTIF

- Each character has their own kind of music



SOUND BRIDGE

- Makes scenes flow smoother
- Start putting sound effects of at the end of the scene that carry into the next scene



SILENCE

- From hectic music → silence helps make the message more powerful



QUESTIONS

1. How can the editor use sound to create a mood?
2. What is the process of Foley Sound?
3. Explain what Diegetic Sound is.
4. What is the use of silence in film?
5. Explain what a Leitmotif is.
6. Why would the editor make a sound bridge?

Camera Shots



01



02

Camera Angle

Camera angle pointing upwards
- High / Power / Authority



Camera angle pointing downwards
- Humble / weaker



Eye Level Shot
- The neutral shot
- Most Common
- More Personal



06



What does the director want us to see?

03

Extreme Long Shots & Very Long Shots

Establishing a setting



05

Putting it

All Together

How do you want your story to be told?



04

Mid Shots &

Long Shots (Wide Shots)

- Hips to Head vs Head to Toe
- Showing people in the setting
- Showing movement



Home