

YOUR FIRST FILM

a team production

THE PRODUCTION PLAN:

1. Share loglines
2. Determine script to film
3. Assign production roles
4. Complete Film Proposal form
5. Storyboard
6. Film (and re-film...)

SHARE

- Everyone in your group shares one logline.
- Start with the oldest person then go to the person on their right... then start again:
- Everyone shares a 2nd logline.

CHOOSE

To Consider: Film is to be 3-5 minutes long & you have about 11 class days for work, it is due on Nov. 21.

- Choose a screenplay that as a group effort, you could make into a film
 - This is difficult:
 - You have many scripts to choose from
 - Most of you don't like/know how to self-promote
 - And it is hard to imagine and troubleshoot for a film production quickly
 - BUT – you can do it!
 - Some you can eliminate because the concept needs an actual budget/location/etc.
 - But give each one consideration, even if someone says their screenplay isn't good, give it thought.

IN CHOOSING A STORY, THINK ABOUT...

- The availability of locations/resources to tell the story
- Cast/actors you might need
- Can you tell the story in a 3-5 minute film?
- Think about what you can control & how you can use film language to tell the story.

Note: you can alter/tailor someone's screenplay, combine ideas, switch scenes around, etc - you don't need to necessarily take a screenplay as-is.

PRODUCTION ROLES:

- Each group member will need to take on a particular production role.
- Consider everyone's strengths, who is in your group, etc.
- You will all help with everything as needed, but you must each hold an official role or two and take responsibility for that job.

... ROLES

- Each role may be shared (ie: co-directors)
- Each person may take on one or two official roles
- While the screenplay is already written, someone may take on that role – making necessary edits/changes/etc. – but this person must also take responsibility for another production role.
- The director/s will have the most responsibility and is in charge of making things happen, assigning responsibilities, determining schedules, etc. so don't take the role on lightly.
- Acting is not considered a role for this production.

FILM PROPOSAL

- First, indicate your production roles
- Then begin filling in the rest of the form as a group.
 - All group members need to be involved and engaged from these beginning stages to successfully create a unified film
- Notice there is a calendar in the folder.
- Many things can and will probably change as you begin your film, but the more you plan with itemized lists like this, the better your production will be (and your Film Proposal is required before you start storyboarding!)

STORYBOARDING

- Once your Film Proposal is complete, turn it in begin storyboarding.
- Your whole film needs to be storyboarded, though you can choose to do this in chunks.

(GENERAL REMINDERS FOR ALL PRODUCTIONS)

PRODUCTION REMINDERS: RESPECT

- If you are using someone's space:
 - First – be nice.
 - Let them know why you are using their space and when/how long you'd like to borrow it for.
 - And ask each time you do; don't just assume because you did it once, you are always welcome (at the least, give them a heads-up)
- Please be quiet in the hallways if filming or scouting.
- If you are absent and you know you will be out (*at the least, this would refer to prearranged absences for sports/fieldtrips, etc.*) – you are required to let your production team know.

PRODUCTION REMINDERS: SAFETY

- No matter where you are, be careful and thoughtful
- While filming during class time, it's an odd situation where you are in my class, but not always with me so you have to be the responsible party.
- If you break something, let me know – please do not just ignore the issue, we'll figure it out
- If there is a fire drill – drop every thing (well not a camera if you have one, take that with you) and go to your 3rd period spot on the field.
- If there's a lockdown drill – go into the nearest classroom/office and hunker down there.

PRODUCTION REMINDERS: HABITS

- Test your recording before you film too much
 - do this by viewing it on the camera (for audio and visual) AND if possible, on a computer
- For all scenes, begin recording slightly before the action and keep the camera rolling just after
 - this will allow more room for editing the scene (you'll thank yourself later).
- If possible, film the scene from two angles (use two cameras if possible? or film the scene twice – mind as well, you've got the setting and characters right there).
- **Attempt to control all you can in your filming space** (the frame)
 - Example: we all know what our classrooms/hallways look like – unless a scene is supposed to take place at school, dress-up the scene so it doesn't look like school.
 - If the character is supposed to be an adult, find an adult, etc. You want us to believe in the world of the film you are creating.
- You will find out soon enough, editing always takes longer than you think....

PRODUCTION REMINDERS: MORE HABITS

- Get in the habit of copying all your film clips for your films on the Public Server
 - This way group members will have access to the footage even if some one is absent.
 - This is the case even if someone wants to do editing on their own computer.
- Ideally, you would put your clips on the server the day you film (or the next day if you filmed after school)
 - So you don't misplace/forget the SD card – because needing to re-film is so sad
- Sometimes you cut it close timing-wise, and the computers are very slow to log on in here...
 - Hint: if you are filming during class, have someone log on a computer at the start of class OR
 - Please ask me to do it for you – hand me your SD card and I'll transfer the clips
 - Note: if you are using a phone, be sure the clips are uploaded to an accessible “cloud” asap

LAST PRODUCTION REMINDER:

And most importantly: PLAN!!

CLASS TIME, A SIDE NOTE

- I know not every moment of class time will need you to be working on your film.
- If you are not working on your film production, you need to be doing schoolwork.
- Of course being a film class, you could be watching a film.