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PS 130 Video Production

A guide to creating meaningful Storyboards

Storyboards are drawings that plan for a camera person what will be seen and heard in each “shot” in a video or film. If you do a good job on your storyboards, it makes recording, or “shooting” a film or video a lot easier. Use the guide below to help you create your storyboards.

What makes a good set of Storyboards

1. the drawings fill the whole “**frame**”
2. everything drawn in the “**frame**” is there for a good reason – they add to the story
3. they use a variety of “**close-ups**”, “**mid shots**”, and “**wide shots**”
4. they either show or say in writing everything that you will see and hear in the video

Examples:

http://www.ramoncontini.com/gallery/conjured_awakening/02.gif

http://www.bbc.co.uk/comedy/mylifeinfilm/storyboards/shallowgrave_sb4.shtml

Also See:

<http://www.adobe.com/education/digkids/lessons/storyboards.html>



To practice “Framing” shots, try framing things with “Finger Frames” (like this photo on the right)

Vocabulary

Video: Moving pictures on a screen played for an audience, usually includes audio

Script: The written story that you use to plan your storyboards and video

Audio: All of the sounds you hear in the video (examples: voices, sound effects, music)

Frame: The space that a video or photo fills in a camera or on a screen; the piece of the world that you see when you look through a camera or watch a video; also the space that you draw in on a storyboard; A well-framed shot is filled with meaningful stuff – everything in the frame is there for a reason and communicates something!

Shot: The piece of video that is recorded between the time when you press record on a camera, then press stop;

edited videos are made up of different “shots” put together by an editor; storyboards plan out each shot in a video

Close-up Shot: A shot that frames one specific detail (examples: an eye, a face, a pencil writing); Close-ups are good for showing emotions on a persons’ face, or a detail you don’t want the audience to miss

Mid Shot: A shot that frames a group of things together (examples: 2 people talking, a person typing on a computer); it’s not so close that you can’t see their bodies, but it’s not so far away that you can’t tell who they are and what they’re doing

Wide Shot: A shot that shows a wide view of where you are (examples: a whole classroom, the skyline of a city); wide shots are good for showing where people are, or what the area is like around something

Narration: The reader’s voice

Dialogue: Words a person says when on camera

Message: The story the video producer is trying to tell with images, video clips, music, dialogue and narration

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