

Short Film & Documentary Film Script



UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB
Faculty of Electrical
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"Abramo Lincoln" - Enna
Linguistico - Economico - Tecnologico



First The Story

1 - Set a simple story

* Like breaking up with a loved one, having to leave, missing, waiting, failing expectations, being surprised...

2 - Decide who will be the player in the story you are preparing.

* Rearrange your story according to the player's skill.

3 - Don't forget!

If the movie actor&actress can't play their part, everything goes to waste!

And The Script

- 1 - Your camera can capture write scenes
- 2 - Limit venues
- 3 - Remember that the world's first and most famous films were silent.
- 4 - If possible, explain with images, not with sound.
 - *Dialogues will also force you in the editing process.

Example scenario 1

A sad boy paints with his friends in kindergarten. The other kids smile at her because her skin is black. The child who is disturbed by this situation takes his paints and leaves the table. He starts to apply the white paint he took in his hand to the other hand without anyone seeing it.

IMPORTANT:

Do I have enough child actors&actress for this movie? Can I set a venue for a school scene? Will my player be able to experience the emotion?

Example scenario 2

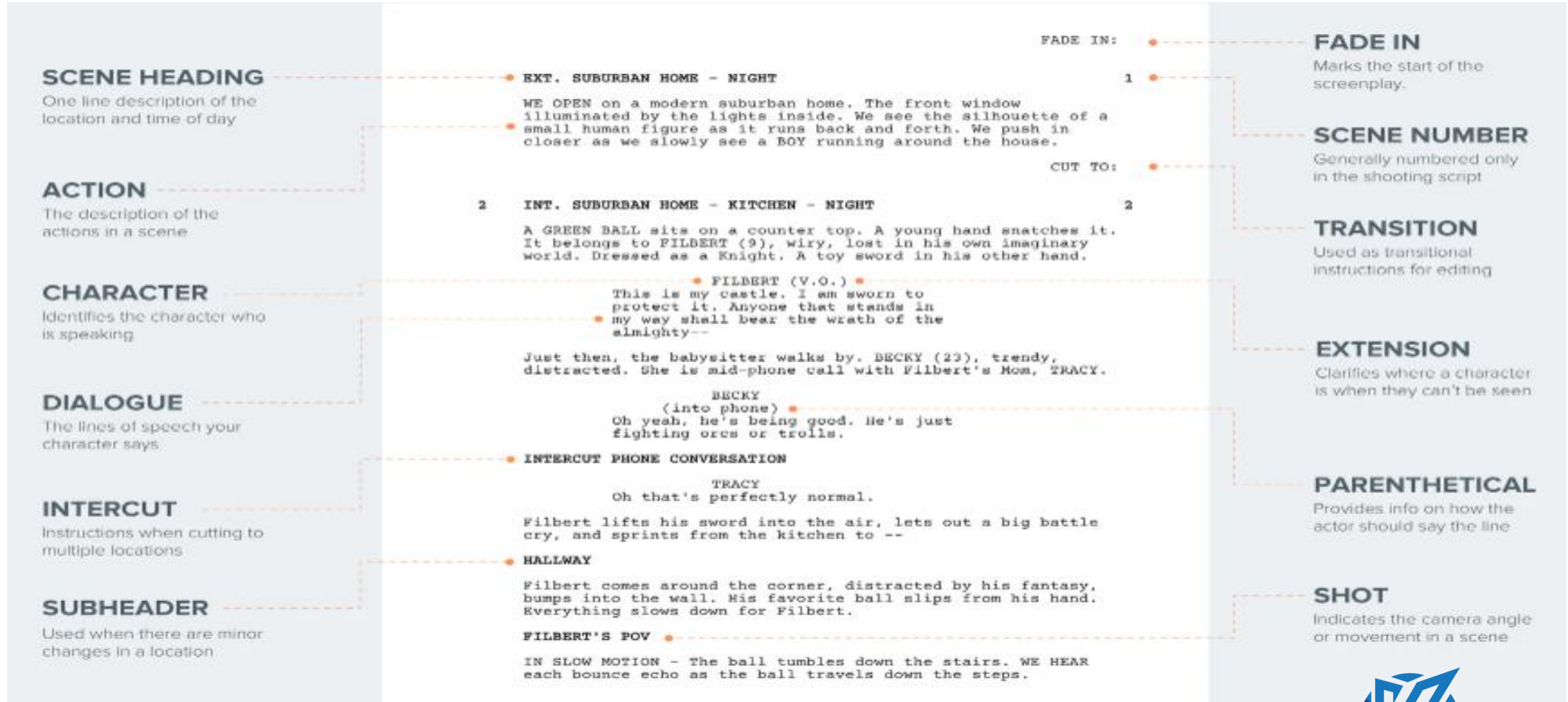
A young woman on the pier looks out to sea. Far away... A woman in similar clothes continues to look away on the same pier. We see the old woman in the same place one morning and one night. It is clear that he came to get news from the person he was waiting at the end of the pier at night. After a very short time, a sound of water is heard. The old woman's hopes are over.

IMPORTANT:

Will I be able to find actresses? Can I find the beach? Is my camera good enough for night shots?



American Screenplay Format



IMPORTANT

Writing everything in detail is the work of literature, cinema just shows! Shows little, tells a lot.

For Documentary Film

Do not write detailed script for documentary film. Choose a topic. You can shoot a short documentary that introduces your project and your feelings. For this, you should shoot an interview with your friends.

- Describing the project
- A different life story you listen to
- An emotional or interesting event



Documentary Film Script

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>Title: Making Easter Sweet</p> <p>Interior of a chocolate factory – visuals of chocolate being poured into molds in the shape of rabbits</p> <p>Close-ups of factory workers’ hands and faces as they inspect each chocolate bunny on the assembly line</p> <p>Delores Jones, ID’d in lower third as Hershey’s Spokeswoman in a stand-up interview with the factory floor behind her</p>	<p>Quirky music</p> <p>DELORES JONES, off screen, explains how Easter chocolate has gotten much more popular than it used to be.</p> <p>Jones continues explaining that the chocolate ears on Easter rabbits tend to be more fragile than many other types of chocolate molds so they have to be hand-checked for structural integrity before they’re packaged.</p> <p>On screen she says: “In order to make enough chocolate Easter bunnies in time for distribution we actually have to start manufacturing them right after the Christmas rush is over in early January. It seems to get earlier and earlier each year!”</p>

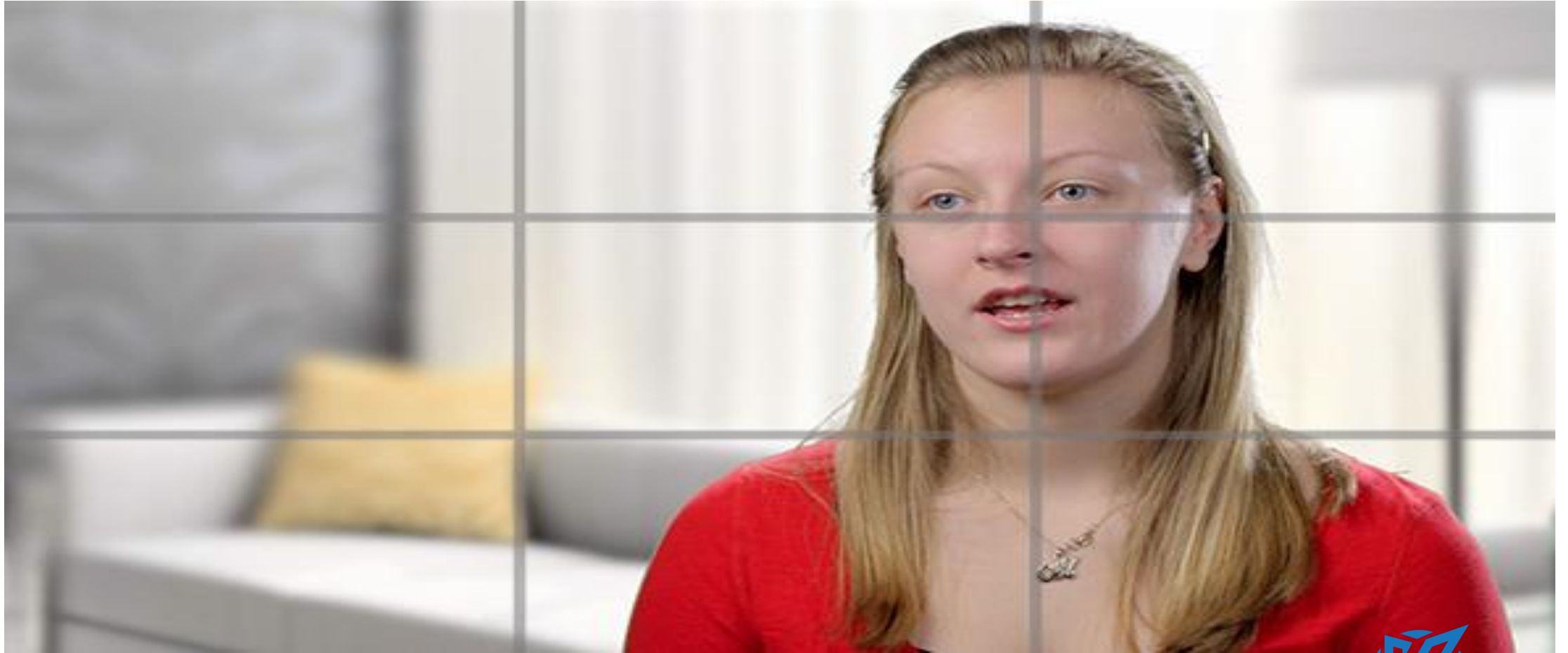


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Documentary Interview



For Editing Apps (Android&Ios)

- Adobe Premiere Rush
- FilmoraGo
- Quik App
- InShot Video Editor
- KineMaster Video Editor
- WeVideo
- PicPlayPost
- Horizon Camera
- Video Shop Editor

Technical settings for mobile phone.

- 1 - Go to your phone's camera settings and choose mp4 format.
- 2 - Use your phone horizontally
- 3 - Choose 16:9 format from camera settings
- 4 -Use the highest resolution
- 5 - If your team has a phone with a similar resolution, shooting with two cameras will make you comfortable.
- 6 - You must do the editing on one phone.

REMEMBER

- 1 - A good story and a good script are paramount.
- 2 - A simple but touching subject will not tire you.
- 3 - Spend most of your time creating stories.
- 4 - When your story and screenplay are finished, do you have the player and the venue to shoot your writing? Discuss this with the team.
- 5 - *I will support you in the process of determining the subject and writing the screenplay.*

Top Film Techniques

- Here are some basic techniques that will be useful for everyone who wants to learn more about the filmmaking process. Don't forget that a movie is not only about what you shoot but also about how you do it. Read our article to learn about visual storytelling and tricks to engage the audience in the film.



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Bird's-eye shot



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- It's a filming technique that shows a wide area of land from a very high angle. The objects are viewed directly from above. This shot is often used as an introductory shot to establish the setting and point up the small size of subjects.





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Long shot



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- With the help of this cinematography technique, the viewer can get a more particular idea of the location of the scene. A long shot shows the whole human body from head to toe. Compared to the bird's-eye shot, subjects stand closer to the camera. The characters catch the attention of the viewer. But still, the audience is not emotionally involved. This shot is used to describe the surroundings of the scene. It should emphasize the moves and actions of the characters rather than their exact emotions.



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Medium shot



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- This is one of the most popular shots used in movies. It's often used to establish a new scene or location. A medium shot shows the characters sharing some information, captures the dialogs of two or more people. The medium shot is also common for interviews in documentary films. The viewer can see the characters closely – from the knees up or waist up. It's possible to see their body language and facial expressions.



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Close-up shot



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- It's a cinematic technique that features only the head of the character. The close-up shot aims at demonstrating the actors' emotions and makes the audience engage with the characters and feel empathy for them. This shot is also a basic tool for emphasizing significant details. It can be used to show an actress touching a ring on her finger. Close-ups help the viewers better understand the emotional state of the characters. The setting becomes really insignificant here.

Extreme close-up shot



- This is the shot framing a part of the character's face, for example, the actor's eyes. It increases the drama and intensity of the scene. The viewer is captivated by the actor's emotions. Extreme close-up works with objects too. It can show the hand cutting a wire to prevent a bomb blast.



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Crane shot



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- It's a type of shot when a camera is moving up or down by more than a couple of feet in the scene. The filmmakers use devices like cranes or jibs to put the cameras on. The thing is that they are quite expensive though it's possible to replace them with drone cameras. Crane shots are supposed to add more suspense to the scene, and they can usually be found at the end of movies.



Tracking shot



- This video shooting technique is used to follow a character or to explore the surroundings. The camera is mounted on a dolly, which is a wheeled cart placed on the rail track. The dolly is following the subject, otherwise, it would leave the frame. The viewer gets a dynamic visual effect while watching such scenes. The camera can also be placed on a moving vehicle if the subject moves really fast.



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Panning shot



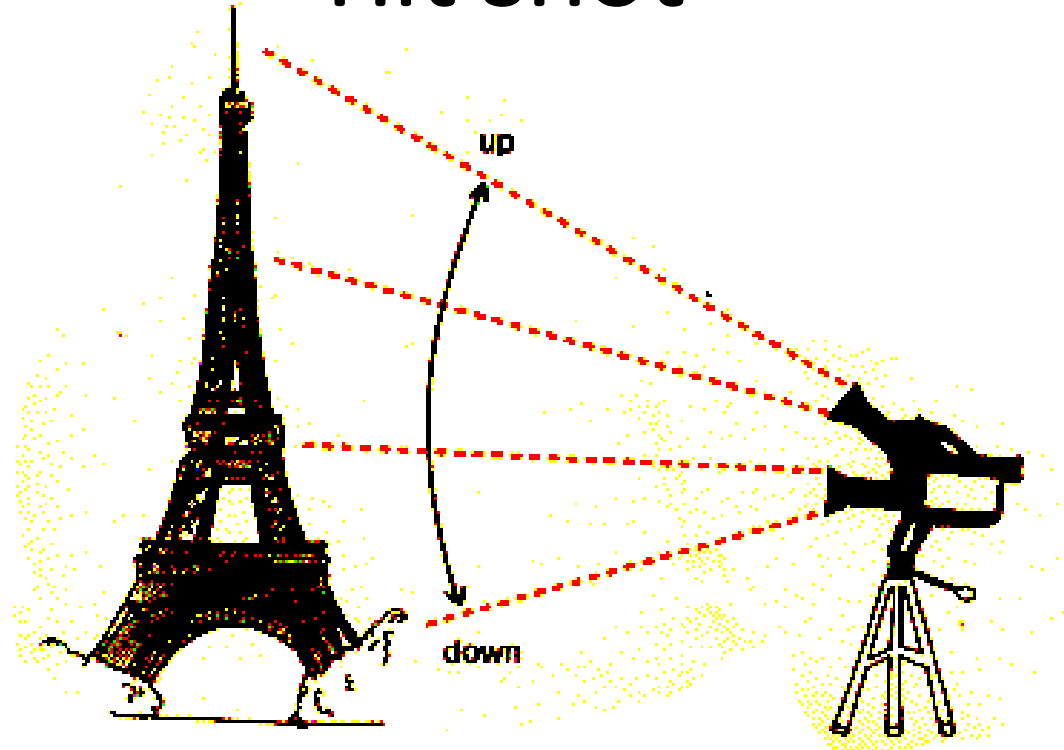
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- Panning means turning the camera horizontally from a fixed position. It looks very professional when the camera moves smoothly and accurately. The motion of the camera is imitating the motion of the character's head from left to right. Take advantage of this shot to show the surroundings.



Tilt shot



- Tilt is a cinematography technique when the camera is moving vertically up and down from a fixed position within a scene. The shot switches the attention of the viewer from one area to another or can be used to slowly reveal something when the camera moves down. The tilt shot is often used as an establishing or introductory shot.



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Dutch angle shot



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- In this shot, the camera is rotated so that the horizon isn't parallel to the bottom of the frame. The Dutch angle demonstrates the emotional state of characters which is disorientation, uneasiness, and tension. Directors of horror movies make good use of this cinematic technique.



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Over-the-shoulder shot



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- This shot is taken from over the shoulder of one of the characters and shows the audience the other one. The head and the shoulder of the person in the foreground are out of focus when another person is in focus. Over-the-shoulder shot is one of the most important techniques in filmmaking as it reveals the connection of the characters between each other, the viewer can see their interaction. These shots are usually taken when the characters have a conversation.



Zoom shot



- It's a technique of changing the focal length of the camera lens. This creates an illusion of the camera moving closer or farther to the objects. When you zoom in, the objects become bigger in the frame. Zoom out, and the objects get smaller. In both examples, the camera has a fixed position, and it's not actually moving anywhere. The zoom shot focuses on a character or an object of the scene.



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Point-of-view shot



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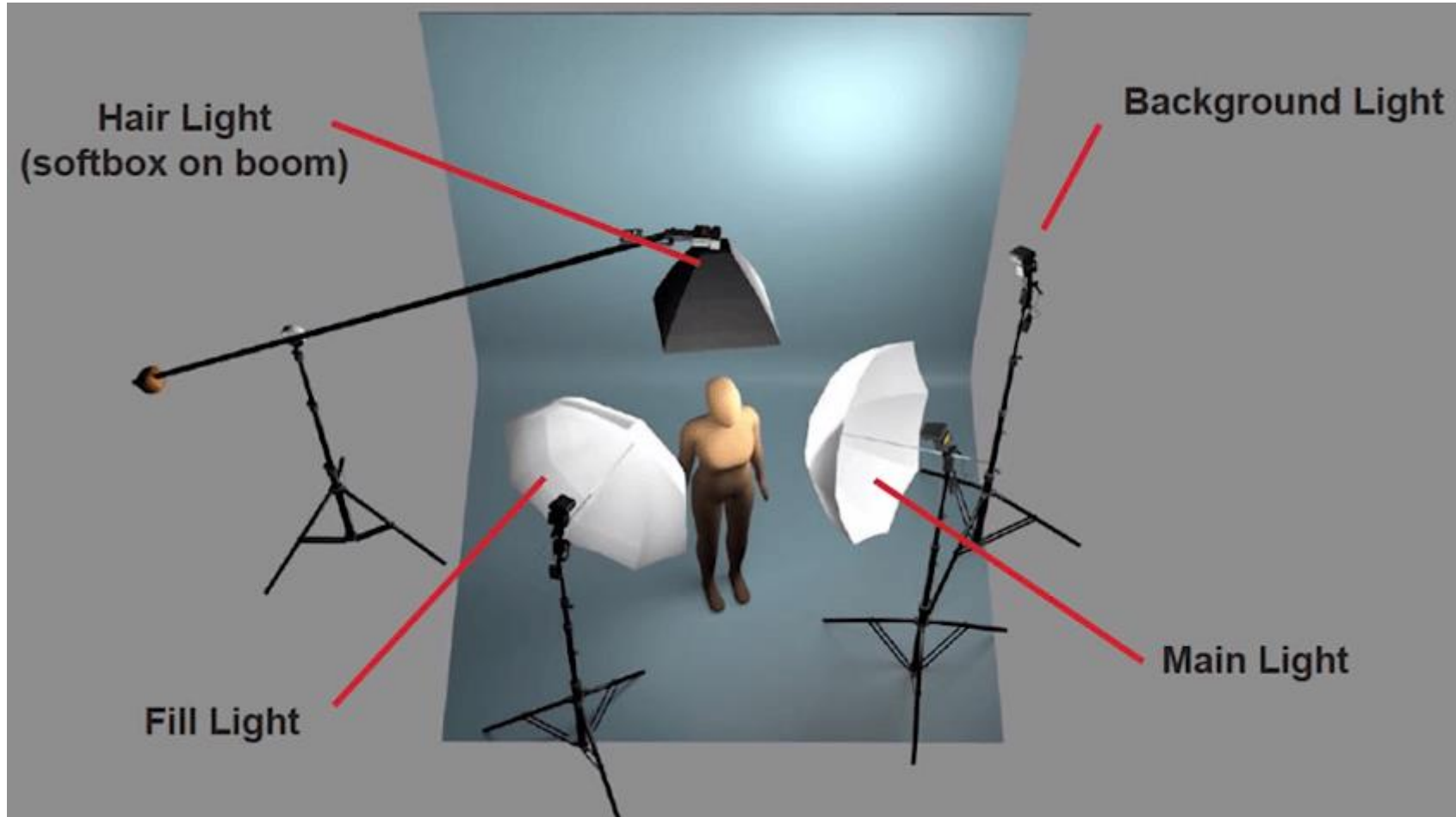


- This is the film angle when the viewers see what's going on in the video through the character's eyes. The audience sees the same as the actor himself. It helps the viewers feel like they are part of the story. Point-of-view shot has become really popular with bloggers as they shoot their videos using action cameras placed on their heads, so the viewers can see what a blogger is going through.



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Basic Lighting



Links

Lighting

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Y6bB86HmdA>

Camera angles

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SlNviMsi0K0>

Frame

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKM3jkEOpuE>