

# Film Production

All pieces **MUST** be completed (in draft form) by the end of the six-week holiday

# Rules and restrictions

- All production work, whether filmmaking or screenwriting, must be individual and demonstrably your own, unaided work.
- For the screenplay option, other students may appear in the shots taken for the storyboard images. The storyboard shots are indicative and the quality of the images is not assessed. The storyboard shots must, however, represent the shots they describe, although lighting requirements should be detailed in the storyboard's visual instructions.

# Production brief 1:

All students to complete the screenplay and the storyboard (in draft form) by September 5th

# Screenplay and storyboard

You are required to create an individual production consisting of a screenplay for a short film of between 1600 and 1800 words which includes one of the following:

- a narrative twist
- a narrative which begins with an enigma
- a narrative which establishes and develops a single character
- a narrative which portrays a conflict between two central characters.

**The screenplay must be accompanied by a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay (approximately 2 minutes' screen time, corresponding to approximately two pages of screenplay and to approximately 20 storyboard shots).**

**The template for this storyboard can be found in <P:\Media\STAFF FOLDERS\Mrs Backhouse\2017-2018\Y12 Film\Component 3 - Practical Production\Storyboards\New Trinity storyboard template.pub>**

# The short film: screenwriting option

Learners are required to use the conventions of a screenplay to produce their screenplay. The standard format for a screenplay is generally referred to as the 'master scene script' layout and consists of:

## Format features

- single column with wide margins
- sequential page numbering (top right)
- mf (more follows) (bottom right)
- dialogue centred, with speaker's name in upper case
- slugline and sound in upper case
- character name in upper case on first appearance only
- font – courier, 12 point

# The short film: screenwriting option (cont.)

## Content

- each scene is numbered and accompanied with a slugline
- the slugline consists of:
  - an indication of where the action takes place – interior or exterior (INT, or EXT or INT/EXT)
  - location descriptor
  - lighting descriptor – DAY or NIGHT or TIME
- scene/action descriptor (with succinct descriptor of character on her/his first appearance)
- essential camera instructions (in upper case within scene descriptor) or essential editing instructions (in upper case, range right), which will only be used in exceptional circumstances (e.g. where SLO-MO is vital)
- action written in present tense.

It should be noted that screenplays do not include camera directions.

# Storyboards

- In order to demonstrate visualisation skills equivalent to filming ideas for a short film, learners producing a screenplay are additionally required to create a digitally photographed storyboard for a key section of the screenplay (approximately 2 minutes' screen time, corresponding to approximately two pages of a screenplay and to approximately 20 storyboard shots).
- Whilst storyboards can and do vary, the generally accepted conventions of a storyboard must be used as indicated below. The digitally photographed storyboard images may be indicative and need not employ a realistic mise-en-scène.
- The storyboard must therefore include the following (all of which are on the template provided here: **P:\Media\STAFF FOLDERS\Mrs Backhouse\2017-2018\Y12 Film\Component 3 - Practical Production\Storyboards\New Trinity storyboard template.pub**)

# Storyboards must include:

- shot number plus indicative image of main shot (e.g. close-up of face)
- the indicative image must incorporate the intended framing (e.g. close-up of face ranged right)
- duration of shot (or a timeline)
- visual details must include detail of the mise-en-scène as well as account for any camera movement within the shot
- specific editing techniques (beyond simple cuts) such as DISSOLVE TO and
- sound details, which must include reference to diegetic or non-diegetic sound but not dialogue.

# Photoshopping

- Whilst digitally photographed images need only be indicative, learners may Photoshop backgrounds. This is not, however, assessed. In addition, up to five found shots may be used where a digitally photographed image would not be possible. The source of these shots must be credited.

# Production brief 2:

One student has indicated they would like to also complete the short film. **Work on this can only begin AFTER the screenplay & storyboard is complete!**

# Short film

You are required to create an individual production consisting of a short film of between 4 and 5 minutes which includes one of the following:

- a narrative twist
- a narrative which begins with an enigma
- a narrative which establishes and develops a single character
- a narrative which portrays a conflict between two central characters.

# The short film: filmmaking option

- You must be responsible for the camerawork and editing of your short film. Unassessed participants may act in, or appear in, the film. Performance skills will not, however, be assessed in the production.
- Although there is no explicit requirement for independent lighting or independent sound, if either of these is required unassessed assistants may operate lighting and/or sound equipment provided they are under the direction of the assessed learner.
- You are encouraged to put into practice an appropriate range of camera shots and editing techniques in your production, applying your knowledge and understanding of cinematography, mise-en-scène, editing and sound.

# 'Found' footage

You may also make use of material which is not your own under the following conditions:

- a soundtrack from existing sources (music or music from a film) may be used provided it is appropriately acknowledged on the relevant form and used for education purposes only
- if use outside education purposes is envisaged (e.g. uploading to YouTube or similar), normal copyright restrictions must be followed
- up to ten seconds (maximum) of found visual material may be used if its use is integral to the genre-based film extract (which could either be a shot or shots which would be impossible to film or found footage such as a news extract)
- if found footage is used, it must be excluded from the specified length of the production.

It is recommended that you:

- use copyright-free material where possible
- plan genre-based extracts which do not rely on shots impossible to film or other examples of found footage