

Name _____ Hour ____ Date _____

Film Terminology

FRAMING

Shot: A single piece of film, uninterrupted by cuts.

Long shot (LS): A shot from some distance (also called a full shot).
A long shot of a person showing the full body. It may suggest the isolation or vulnerability of the character.

Medium shot (MS): The most common shot. The camera seems to be a medium distance from the object being filmed. A medium shot shows a person from the waist up.

Close-up shot (CU): The image takes up at least 80 percent of the frame.

Extreme Close-up (ECU): The image is part of a whole, such as an eye or an hand.

CAMERA ANGLES

Eye level: A shot taken from a normal height, that is, the character's eye level; 90 to 95 percent of the shots seen are eye level because it is the most natural angle.

High angle: The camera is above the subject. This angle usually has the effect of making the subject look smaller than normal, giving him or her the appearance of being weak, powerless, or trapped.

Low angle: The camera shoots the subject from below. This angle usually has the effect of making the subject look larger than normal, and therefore, strong, powerful, or threatening.

LIGHTING

High Key: the scene is flooded with light, creating a bright and open-looking scene.

Low Key: The scene is flooded with shadows and darkness, creating suspense of suspicion.

Neutral: Neither high key or low key — even lighting in the shot.

Directors use different kinds of framing, camera angles, and lighting to achieve different effects. Think about the effect each might achieve.

** Adapted from College Board Springboard, 2010, (pg.62).*

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