Video Planning Guide

WRITE/REVISE SCRIPT

Step one: Choose one particular scene from the story that will fulfill the time requirements of the project (6-7 minutes for full points).

Step two: Outline your scene so you know what characters will be involved what your setting(s) will be and what costumes will be required.

Step three: Begin writing your script. Give helpful details about the setting and characters. Use slug lines before the scene. These say whether the action is taking place inside or outside, what the location is, and if it is day or night. A character's name should go in all caps above or next to his/her dialogue. You can also put instructions, such as pauses, in parentheses.

Step four: Check your dialogue. Dialogue will make or break your characters and their relationships. What's worse, dialogue is extremely difficult for most people to write. Remember when this story is set. The dialogue should not sound like modern speech.

Step five: Revise. Make sure you haven't written too little. Scripts usually last about one minute per page, though there is certainly some wiggle room. Scripts are not like books in that word count is a definitive way to gauge length. Be careful.

Create a Story Board

Storyboards depict and describe the action that will take place in each scene. Storyboards need to be constructed as part of good planning to show what you and/or your team has agreed will take place in each shot. Storyboards number each shot, also referred to as a "take," and also document camera angles, lighting, timing, and other details The video story will be told shot by shot on paper as sketches to aid in communication of ideas before filming begins. The storyboard document is used as the picture script for production.

Use the sheets on the next pages to create your picture script.

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