

Film Analysis

1. Camera Techniques

Camera movements in conjunction with other story and production elements engage an audience

Each camera shot directs the audience to look at person, a scene or an object in a particular way – A camera angle that looks down may make the subject look insignificant

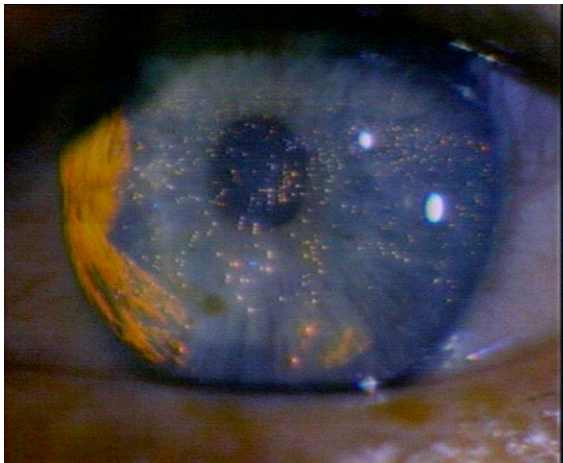
the way a shot is selected tells us about a character

Shot Selection

The distance between the camera and the subject is an important element when analysing a film. Usually the closer the subject is to the camera, the more importance the subject is given.

The longer that a camera spends on a subject the more important the subject is. A close up can be revealing.

Extreme Close Up



This is a tight shot that captures one specific aspect of the subject being filmed. It is a dramatic shot that draws attention to fine detail. An extreme close up could be used for a shot of a character's eyes



A close up is not as tight. A close-up may draw attention to the significance of an object. Close-ups create drama and tension by giving single objects and small movements a lot of attention. A close-up is often of the face of an actor to capture their expression and gestures

Medium Close -

A Medium Close-up is a natural distance between the subject and the camera. In a medium close – up the actor's shoulders and upper chest would probably be visible as well as some of the background. Conversations between two people are often shot in a medium close up

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Mid Shot / Medium shot



In a mid shot there is much more background than in a medium close-up. More than one subject can be captured. Actors are usually shown from the waste up.

Medium Long Shot

It is a common shot that shows all the gestures and actions of the characters in the scenes.


Long shot




Long shots show multiple characters. Central characters are

	<p>rarely shot in long shots. In long shots subjects are still prominent although the background dominates the scene. A long shot shows the whole location of the action</p>
<p>Extreme Long shot</p> 	<p>Many narratives begin with an extreme long shot. They are often shots of landscapes or cities. An example of an extreme long shot is the opening scene in Ridley Scott's Blade Runner.</p>

Camera Angle

For every shot in a film the cinematographer has to decide on the angle, distance and movement of the camera in relation to the subject

<p>Straight on Angle / Eye level</p> 	<p>This is a common shot. The camera is parallel to the ground and films directly in front of itself</p>
<p>High Angle</p>	<p>This is when the camera is positioned</p>

	<p>above the subject. The subject may seem small, insignificant or threatened</p>
<p>Low Angle</p> 	<p>The camera is placed lower than the subject. This gives the impression of looking up at the subject and implies power</p>
<p>Decanted</p> 	<p>The camera is tilted on an angle. This indicates discord and unsettles the audience</p>

Camera Movement

<p>Pan</p>	<p>This is when the camera moves across a horizontal plane - often set on a Tripod - used to show a landscape scene-</p>
<p>Zoom</p>	<p>The camera zooms in or out to reveal more or less of the action- by using the function on the camera lens</p>
<p>Tracking</p>	<p>When the camera is place on a what</p>

	<p>is known as a dolly and moves into towards a subject – it is known as Tracking in: When using the same device the camera moves back from the object –it is known as Tracking back</p> <p>When the camera moves with a moving subject it is known as Tracking with</p>
Crane shot	The camera is often suspended from a large mechanical device – often used to highlight depth and space in a long shot
Hand Held	Hand held shots produce a jerky movement that can be disconcerting or unsettling. It is often used to create a sense of realism

Focus

Focus is often called **depth of field**. It refers to the area within the frame that the camera focuses on. It could be the foreground, the background or the middle ground.

Focus refers to how clearly or sharply the audience sees the subject. Generally elements that are in focus are given importance by the filmmaker

In Focus	The subject looks clear and the edges are sharply defined.
Out of focus	The subject appears blurry
Deep Focus	This is a shot where all the elements are in focus. A deep focussed shot may create a strong connection between a character and their setting