

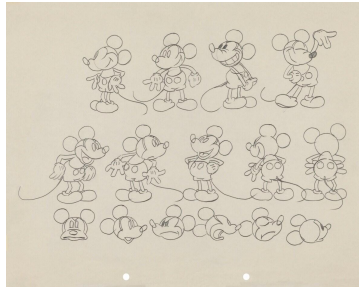
Theater and Other Media Notes

Quiz Link: [QUIZ](#) (ava magliola)

Exam Link: [EXAM](#) (katlin williford)

History of film

- 1824 Peter Mark Roget came up with the idea of using pictures with slightly different positions to imitate movement.
- The idea then moved further with technology to animation (making drawn or inanimate objects to appear live and move)
- At first when movies were developing they were silent, and when they transitioned to “talkies” some actors careers went downhill because their voices



were not loved by the audience

Differences Between the Stage and Film

Convention - an established technique, practice, or device

Early films were in simple terms a theatrical production with a camera instead of the audience, due to the heavily borrowed _____ from the theater.

When transitioning from the stage to film, theatrical conventions eventually transitioned into their own film conventions like the development of different angles of the camera for example the _____, and the _____.

These different camera angles allowed for the acting to evolve from being dramatic to less overdramatic movements because the camera sees your every move.

Another convention of the theater that changed with film is the ability to tell time and place. Because cameras can focus on one person and thing at a time, it makes it easier to go from one scene to another with _____ and the _____.

Close up- Camera shot of an up close of the actor's face.



Zoom- Changing the focal length of zoom lens.

Dissolve- Gradual editing transition

Crosscut shot- switches abruptly from one scene to another to show events happening at the same time but in different places

From movies to Television

- The _____ of television from moving pictures was somewhat less extreme than that from the stage to movies because by that time, the audience were accustomed to recorded entertainment.
- _____ was such a breakthrough because it made entertainment cheaper, more accessible, convenient, and put right into the living room.
- Television is different from _____ because television signals are sent to antennas and then feed them to television sets which creates different programs to view live events.

Golden Age of Television: Occurred after World War II when programming expanded to include news, comedy, drama, and sports.

Second Golden Age: Television has become the new home for the kind of thought-provoking, issue-centered material usually reserved for serious live theater.

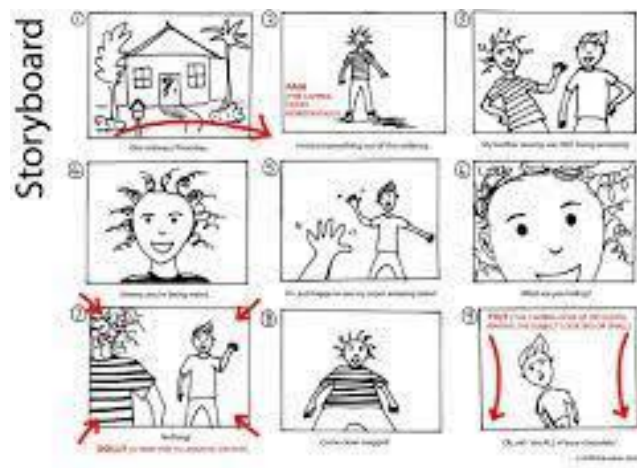
Writing and Filming Movies

Movies and television productions are written in several stages.

- 1) _____: the idea is expressed in a few sentences
- 2) _____: telling the story in narrative form without the use of dialogue. This allows film executives to view ideas quickly and pick and choose which ideas they are going to pursue.
- 3) _____: narrative is converted to dialogue

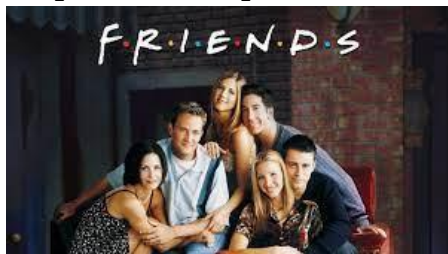
Another tool used: **Storyboard** (the depiction of the script in comic-book form)

After the movie is filmed, the editor will edit the clips to make sure that the sequence of the movie makes sense



Special Circumstances of Television

- Much television programming is made up of comic or dramatic series. (the same characters with same character traits appear week after week) Since the audience already is familiar with all the characters the different episodes can get straight to the point of the episode.



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- Commercials are a problem for television that is not found in film. The script of the program must be able to be broken up by commercials. In order to get a watcher to wait for the ads to end they need to make sure a point of high interest happens right before a commercial break.
- For TV programs, they are on a tighter schedule so they use tactics like filming a dress rehearsal and editing it to be the final tape.
- **Three-camera system** - use of multiple cameras allowing the director to switch from close-ups to wide-angle shots and get to use various camera angles during one take.

Differences between Stage and Film Acting

Stage Acting	Film Acting
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- Live audience - Get the chance to win over audience throughout play - Need full energy and loud voices	- No live audience - Less dramatic - Can repeat same scene over and over with no fundamental changes
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The audience's physical perception is also an important distinction between acting onstage and acting on screen because any member of the audience might focus on any character at any time. As well as, perceive what's differently than someone else may think.

Filming Out of Sequence

While plays are performed live fully, film scenes are all shot out of order making it more difficult for the actors because they need to keep in mind their character development throughout the film.

- All acting takes focus but film acting is difficult because they are alone with just the directors and the camera looking at them.
- Actors read scripts in isolation without the benefit of discussion with the director or the other actors.
- Sometimes only in the first take of a scene, called the "master shot," are all the actors present with the full set.
- The actor filming his or her "half" of the scene must rely purely on concentration, instinct, and imagination.

Two Types of Criticism

Criticism- _____ and _____ of the merits and faults of a literary or artistic work.

The Two Types:

Review - appear in newspapers and magazines to either recommend or not recommend a movie to the audience

Analysis - These describe and evaluate the theme, plot, dialogue, and characterization of the script.

Reviews can either be a blessing or a curse for the movie being reviewed because review affect how many people go and see the movie. Even though positive reviews boost ticket sales, there is still a chance that you could go see the movie or film and not enjoy it considering all people, even critics, have their own opinions and tastes.

The Audience and The Production

- _____ of stage plays need to pay attention to reviews because they may need to adjust their production to please the audience. Although movies have more options and can be released to television and even save some money.
- _____ of a production is a heavy weighing factor to its success.

Measuring Success

- The receipts and money taken in from ticket sales tell the story for traditional stage plays. This is partially true for some movies, unless they also had a secondary income from the sales of toys and other merchandise from the movie.
- For commercial television they mostly rely on rating services that represent the national viewership. Depending on the rating, the better the rating the more money it takes to buy commercial time.
- The competition for audiences is fierce, especially in recent years because of the many different options there are to watch movies or shows.

The Changing Audience

- The amount of options has an effect on the types of movies and shows being released. There is much more action and quickly paced movies.
- Everyone watching wants entertainment and action in what they're watching.
- Factors of a theater like not being able to talk or being far away from the stage, and large crowds may keep people away.
- Advancements in film and television affect not only critics and audiences, but also influence the traditional stage drama from which they sprang.