



# **HS Digital Media Production/ Advanced Digital Media Production**

**Wednesday, May 13, 2020**



# HS Digital Media Production/Advanced Digital Media Production

Overall Lesson: Video Journalism

Sub lesson for Wednesday, May 13: Types of Video Shots - 2  
of 2

## **Learning Target:**

Students will understand the different types of shots utilized in video journalism, and the purpose each serves.



# Video Journalism - Shooting Video

- In writing, the basic building block is the word. The video equivalent of a word is a camera shot.
  - A **shot** starts when you press "Record" and ends when you pause or stop the recording.
- Remember the following best practices when shooting video:
  - Use the Rule of 3rds
  - Get Close to Your Subject
  - Walk Instead of Zoom
  - Use Angles
  - Leave space
  - Don't be a hoser (*set shot, record for 10 seconds, stop recording*)
  - Landscape is best (*when shooting with phone*)



# Video Journalism - Types of Shots Review

- Establishing Shot
  - Wide angle shot to establish subject's location. Always get one.
- Shot sequencing
  - 3-shot sequence
    - Wide, Medium, Tight
      - Good for general use on most any kind of story.
    - **5-shot sequence**
      - Useful in recording a person working on something.
- **Cutaways**

**\*\*Bold denotes topics we'll cover today\*\***



# Video Journalism - Types of Shots Review

- Sequence: A series of related shots that tells the story of a single event, location or time period *(Source: Hewitt)*
  - Sequences...
    - Promote continuity
    - Shots that don't fit together can push audience away instead of drawing them in
    - A good sequence creates a seamless progression
    - Compress time
    - Express more ideas in less time
    - Add professional polish
    - A good shot sequence conveys purpose and direction

# Video Journalism - Types of Shots

## - 5-Shot Sequence

- Useful technique in filming someone working on something.
  1. Close-up of hands of a subject - showing WHAT is happening
  2. Close-up of the face - WHO is doing it
  3. Wide shot - WHERE it's happening
  4. Over-the-shoulder shot - links together 1 - 3
  5. Unusual/angled shot - provides story-specific context



- Watch [this](#) for another example.



# Video Journalism - Types of Shots

## - Cutaways

- Shots neutral to the action (*meaning, away from the central focus of your video*)
  - Could be a crowd member at a game or play, sign on a wall in a classroom, etc.
- Should be relevant to your story
- Help you avoid... **jump cuts** (*remember those from last lesson?*)
  - Jump cut = two shots so similar that the subject appears to move, or jump, unnaturally between them
    - Example:  
First shot is a static shot of someone sitting in a corner, but in the very next shot that person is up moving around
      - The cut “jumped” between the action



# Activity

- *With their approval, you're going to shoot videos of **two** people in your household utilizing a **5-shot sequence** and **cutaways**.*
  - With the camera on your phone, capture them doing a task or activity (*or, if you just have one other person in your household, capture that person doing 2 different things*).
    - Tell them to act as if you weren't there (*it should be natural*)
    - They should focus on the work and not look at you while you're recording
  - For each person, shoot **one** **5-shot sequence** and **two** **cutaways** (*for a total of 7 shots per person*)
    - Reminders:
      - Record each shot for at least 10 seconds
      - Use the Rule of Thirds
      - Don't just zoom in to get the closer shots. Move closer to the subject
      - Record in landscape (*hold your phone horizontally*)





# Additional Resources - Avoiding Jump Cuts

- Besides using tight shots and cutaways, there are some other ways to avoid jump cuts when shooting video:
  - [30% Rule](#)
  - Allow the person or action you are shooting to [leave the frame](#)  
(just from 1:39 - 1:54)
    - *This video also includes a lot of other suggestions and examples for types of shots and ways to shoot*