

Storyboard Language

ESTABLISHING SHOT: A long shot, often the first in a sequence, which establishes the positions of elements relative to each other and identifies the setting.

CLOSE-UP SHOT: A close range of distance between the camera and the subject.

EXTREME CLOSE UP: A shot in which a small object (e.g. a part of the body) fits easily within the frame.

MEDIUM SHOT: A shot in which a medium-size object (e.g. the top half of a human figure) fits easily within the frame.

LONG SHOT: A long range of distance between the camera and the subject, often providing a broader range of the setting.

DISSOLVE: A transition between two shots, where one shot fades away and simultaneously another shot fades in.

FADE: A transition from a shot to black where the image gradually becomes darker is a Fade Out; or from black where the image gradually becomes brighter is a Fade In.

CROSS-CUTTING: Swiftly cutting backwards and forwards between more than one scene.

CUTAWAY: A sudden shift to another scene of action or different viewing angle; or a shot inserted between scenes to effect a transition (as a bridging shot).

JUMP CUT: A rapid, jerky transition from one frame to the next, either disrupting the flow of time or movement within a scene or making an abrupt transition from one scene to another.

LOW CAMERA ANGLE: A camera angle which looks up at its subject; it makes the subject seem important and powerful.

LEVEL CAMERA ANGLE: A camera angle which is even with the subject; it may be used as a neutral shot.

HIGH CAMERA ANGLE: A camera angle which looks down on its subject making it look small, weak or unimportant.

PAN: A steady, sweeping movement from one point in a scene to another.

POV: (point of view shot): A shot which is understood to be seen from the point of view of a character within the scene.

REACTION SHOT: 1.: A shot of someone looking off screen. 2.: A reaction shot can also be a shot of someone in a conversation where they are not given a line of dialogue but are just listening to the other person speak.

TILT: Using a camera on a tripod, the camera moves up or down to follow the action.

ZOOM: Use of the camera lens to move closely towards the subject.

MONTAGE: Style of editing involving rapid cutting so that one image is juxtaposed with another or one scene quickly dissolves into the next. Angles, settings and framing are manipulated in a conspicuous way (violating coherent mise-en-scene) so as to convey a swift passage of time, to create some kind of visual or conceptual continuity, or to generate a distinctive rhythm. (See also dynamic cutting.)