

In-Camera Edit Exercise

The purpose of this workshop is to have each team of video makers shoot a scene without the benefit of editing.

Each film crew will create a storyboard of six shots. The scene will deal with one of the following situations:

- a breakup
- a kiss
- a gift
- a threat
- a theft
- an accident

Once the storyboard has been created and the film crews have worked through the technical workshop, they are ready to do an in-camera edit.

Each group will need to borrow two actors from another group. If this is not possible, assign two people in each group as actors (pick two people who have no interest whatsoever in shooting, editing or directing the video). Each person in the film crew will take on one of the following roles for each shot:

- Director
- Cinematographer
- Crew

It is imperative that everybody rotates between these roles throughout the in-camera edit in order to get a clear understanding of all the roles and responsibilities in a film crew.

At the conclusion of the in-camera edit, it may be clear that one person is the group is particularly strong with the camera, another is a good director, while some people simply want to crew. This is fine; what's important is that everybody have a sense of the different roles and responsibilities in a video production and, most importantly, be willing to cooperate and work together later on during the full video shoot.

Once the in-camera editing has been completed, connect the cameras to a VCR and TV and watch the scenes students have shot.

Look for and comment on the strengths and weaknesses of edits between shots; shot framing, lighting, acting, etc. The point of this whole exercise is to get students acquainted with the production process they are about to undertake.

Shot Lists

Create shot lists and location lists prior to your shooting to save time on equipment set-up and moving equipment during production.