

From Novel to Film:



transforming words into images

Novel vs. Film

NOVEL

- Linguistic = words
- Conceptual
- Raw material: written words
- One author

FILM

- Visual = images
- Perceptual
- Raw Material: recorded images and sounds
- Collaborative

Pre-Production



- How do writers plan their novels?
 - Graphic organizers: web, Venn diagram, t-chart (outline) ...
 - Free writing: journals, quick writes, rough drafts ...
- How do directors plan their films?
 - Turn novel into [screenplay 1](#) and [screenplay 2](#)
 - Help of a screenwriter(s) ... sometimes it's the actual author of the novel.
 - Create [storyboards](#)
 - Use of a graphic artist to visualize KEY scenes
 - Camera angle
 - What is happening / narration of events
 - LOTR examples
 - Visualizing the Story/"Storyboards and Pre-Viz" (12-14)

Film Terminology

- Camera Shots
 - Long range:
 - subject is not distant, but human figures generally seen the height of the screen
 - Medium range:
 - shows human characters from waist up
 - Close Up:
 - shows human figure from the head up or an object filling screen entirely
 - (ZOOM)
 - Point of View:
 - camera placed where the characters eyes would be to show what they would see

Film Terminology

- **Camera Angles**
 - The position of the camera in relation to the subject it shows
 - Straight on:
 - on the same level (most common)
 - Low Angle:
 - looking up (used sparingly)
 - High Angle (Crane Shot):
 - looking down (used sparingly)
- **Camera Motions**
 - Pan:
 - camera moving from either left to right on horizontal
 - (DOLLY)
 - Tilt:
 - camera moving up/down vertically
- **Scene Transition**
 - Direct Cut: most common
 - dissolve, fade, page turn, etc.

The Video

- The Task
 - Form groups
 - (4-8 per group ... you choose as long as everybody's included).
 - Brainstorm different themes, motifs, or voices you might like to use in your production.
 - the basic gist of the scene(s) and the overall tone and themes of the story must be intact.
 - Choose a scene or two that you might want to do.
 - Discuss tasks within the groups:
 - storyboard artists, camera handles, actors, script writers, costume/set designers/creators, set technicians, etc.
 - Begin storyboarding, writing scripts, and developing costumes, etc.
 - Get SB's and scripts okayed
 - start filming