

## Video Production 1a

DEADLINE: \_\_\_\_\_

### Making a Silent Black and White Movie

#### California Standards

- *Visual Arts 4.1 - Describe the relationship involving the art maker (director/producer), the making (process), the artwork (product), and the viewer*
- *Visual Arts 4.3 – Discuss in written form how society influences the interpretation and message of a film.*
- *Visual Arts 3.2 Identify contemporary artists worldwide who have achieved success and how their works influence today’s culture of filmmaking.*
- *10.3 Technology – Understand the historic impact of the arts and technology on society.*
- *10.4 Technology – Compare and contrast the roles of creators, performers, and others involved in the production and presentation of the arts.*

**Time:** 4 days on the block

#### **Objectives**

Students will

- watch a historical black and white movie
- describe the antagonist and protagonists ,the plot points in the story and where the Act breaks are.
- discuss and write about the similarities and differences between Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton.
- Create their own 2-3 minute black and white silent film.

KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS
History of Black & White Films/Charlie Chaplin	Advanced camera
How to turn video into black and white	Advanced editing techniques, teamwork

#### **Assignment**

Create a silent, black and white movie that has a running time of around 2-3 minutes. You can choose to make a comedy or drama, as long as the story includes a conflict, resolution, and is creative. Because the movie will be short, the conflict should be rather simple and clear.

You must complete the following:

1. Watch a short subject from the silent era of filmmaking. Charlie Chaplin - *City Lights*.
2. Watch Buster Keaton’s *Sherlock Jr.*

3. Discuss similarities and differences in film making styles of Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin.
4. **Write** 2 paragraph discussing two similarities or two differences in the filmmaking styles of the black and white film makers.
5. Discuss plot, character and sequences in making a black and silent film.
6. **Write** a treatment form for a 2-3 minute black and white silent film.
  - a. Character and Plot - describe each in a few sentences.
  - b. Treatment form - Introduce character and problem.
  - c. Middle - Situation 1, Situation 2, Situation 3(?)
  - d. End - Resolution
7. Share individual treatment with group and choose one to recreate as a group.
8. Write group treatment form.
9. Everyone contributes and writes up storyboard - including dialogue cards on storyboard.
10. After finishing storyboard, begin filming.
11. Use a variety of camera angles.
12. Do filming in areas where other classes won't be disturbed.
13. Capture footage, lay down video without audio, and then add music, titles and other finishing touches. Last step, turn clips black and white. This will take awhile, so plan lots of time for editing.
14. Choose a few songs with NO lyrics to keep scene interesting.
15. Turn in project when completed to Google Classroom.

### **Evaluation**

You are expected to create a professional-quality video by using/achieving the following:

- Make story interesting and easy to follow.
- Making characters stand out.
- Using creative camera shots. Follow action through edits, not movement of camera.
- Having good title cards to explain scenes.