

Making a Silent Black and White Movie

Group #: _____

Group Members: _____

Objectives

Students will:

- watch a historical black and white movie -- Charlie Chaplin's *City Lights*
- describe the antagonist and protagonists.
describe the plot points in the story.
- Create their own 1:45 -- 3 minute black and white silent film.

Assignment

1. Create a silent, black and white movie that has a running time of around 1:45 -- 3 minutes.
2. You may choose to make a comedy or drama, as long as the story includes a conflict, resolution, and is creative.
3. 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. Discuss plot, character and sequences in making a black and silent film.

Your Film:

1. Each student must **write a treatment** for a film. The treatment will include:
 - a. Character and Plot - describe each in a few sentences.
 - b. Treatment form - Introduce character and obstacle.
 - c. Middle - Situation 1, Situation 2, Situation 3(?)
 - d. End - Resolution
2. Share your individual treatment with the group **and choose** one to recreate as a group.
3. **Write one group treatment.**
4. **Create a storyboard.**
5. After turning in your storyboard, create **a shot list**.
6. Use a variety of camera angles.
7. Make sure that your shots are long enough to be smoothly edited.

**8. Concentrate on continuity of shots by:
matching your wide, medium and close up shots.**

- A. Film in areas where other classes won't be disturbed.
- B. Capture and import footage from SD card.
 - a. Lay down the video into timeline.
 - b. Cut by matching different frame sizes that smoothly create continuity.
 - c. Add room tone, music and titles.

Evaluation

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

Make story interesting and easy to follow by:

- Making characters stand out.
- Using creative camera shots.
- Following action through edits and motivated camera movement.
- Creating and edit that includes smooth transitions and continuity of shots.
- Having good title cards to explain scenes if needed.