

Film Production 2015

Project Description

Ms. Cowan

WIND UP

For this project, you will create a short film using a wind-up toy. The focus of this project will be on storytelling. What story can you tell with this wind-up toy in one minute or less? How can you use your camera skills to capture the journey and engage your viewer's senses and emotions? How can you plan out your story ahead of time in order to make sure you capture the footage you will need to portray the story in an engaging way?

Below are the concepts you will be graded on:

Storytelling concepts:

- Plan your story ahead of time before you shoot
- Keep it simple
- How will you hook your viewer from the beginning?
- What is your character fighting for?
- What obstacles does your character face?
- How does the story end?

Camera concepts:

- Shoot only what is necessary (do not amass tons of footage!)
- Capture only beautiful, well-framed and evocative shots
- Use the 5-pt method as a guide
- Capture most of your shots without moving the camera!
- Capture of few shots using a slow pan, or a slow tilt
- Remember to get a variety of views or angles
- Use your focus wisely – rack focus when appropriate, and use the greatest depth of field when possible.
- Follow the story intuitively, as your viewer might want it to develop

Editing Concepts:

- Can you change the speed in this project? (speed up action, or slow it down)
- How can music help you tell your story?
- How can you hook and hold your viewer until the very end?
- Can you use a video effect?
- Can you use a sound effect?

Below are the instructions you will follow for shooting:

1. Take 5 minutes to play around with the wind-up toy to see what it does
2. Take 5 - 10 minutes to storyboard your film
3. Take 5 minutes to make a list of the shots (include LS, MS, CU, etc.) you need to get, based on your storyboard
4. Take 10 – 15 minutes shoot your stories