

Lights, Camera, Film Literacy!
Creating a Documentary Film

(After completing each step, make sure to have your teacher initial it.)

- ___1) Brainstorm as a group some ideas for your film's topic.
This should be about something going on in your school or a person in your school.

Write your topic here: _____

Remember that your documentary's purpose is to INFORM.

- ___2) List three main ideas you plan to include in your documentary and under each main idea, list three details about that idea to include.

I. _____

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

II. _____

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

III. _____

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

____ 3) What are some of the conclusions about your topic you hope your audience will take away from viewing your documentary? (*These are ideas not actually stated in the film, but inferred by what you have shown your audience. An example might be "Teaching is a challenging profession." In your documentary, you show all the challenges a teacher faces on the job and let your audience make the inference about this conclusion themselves.*)

____ 4) What facts do you plan to include in your documentary?

____ 5) What opinions, if any, do you plan to include in your documentary?

____ 6) Circle which of the following will be included in your documentary:

Problem & Solution Cause & Effect Compare & Contrast

____ 7) Write an introduction for your narrator:

____8) Write a summarizing ending for your narrator:

____9) Write a paragraph for your narrator to say about main idea #1:

____10) Write a paragraph for your narrator to say about main idea #2:

____11) Write a paragraph for your narrator to say about main idea #3:

____12) Fold sheets of paper lengthwise and at the top of each half on each sheet of paper, write "Visual" and "Audio."

____13) Under the "Audio" column, write the beginning paragraph, the three main idea paragraphs, and the summarizing paragraphs.

_____14) Next to each portion of the "Audio" column, list the planned shots to accompany the narration.

_____15) Make a shot list from your planned visuals.

_____16) Decide who you will be interviewing. List five or more to ask.
(Plan to include at least three people in your completed film.)

_____17) Film your planned shots. Add any other shots that are necessary.

_____18) Watch the footage. Eliminate any you will definitely not be using.

_____19) Place your interview portions in the locations that "fit."

_____20) Tape your narrator in a quiet room. Each sentence should be recorded separately.

_____21) Match the narrator to the visuals. The narration often precedes the visual by a few seconds.

_____22) Add titles and credits. In your credits, mention your school as the location and thank those who were interviewed.

_____23) Add Garage Band music to accompany your documentary.

_____24) Check sound levels and adjust for each portion, if necessary.

CONGRATULATIONS
On Completing your Documentary Film !!!!