Project A4 Title: Reverse Engineering

Description

It is often useful to take someone else's finished product and work backwards, taking it apart to figure out how it was made. This project asks students to select a l-minute extract from a film of their choice, which they study thoroughly and then attempt to replicate as closely as they possibly can. In their replication, students are required to create everything themselves, including score and sound effects. Nothing may be recorded from the original, no music or effects may be merely downloaded. In preparation, they will write the script (not merely photocopy it) in standard format and then will create the storyboard as a checklist for shooting. They are expected to get as close as they possibly can to the original, with the exception of the actors resembling (in looks or voice, that is) the original actors. In their final score, the instructor assigns a difficulty multiplier in order to encourage students to not select the easiest possible scene they can find.

Product

At the conclusion of this project the student(s) will create a l-minute replication of a scene from a professional film of their choice.

Objectives

This project is designed to allow students to:

- Fully appreciate the complexity of creating a scene from the ground up
- Discover marry of the rules for editing on their own
- Apply, in a practical setting, many of the how-to lessons such as lighting and
- Script -writing

Support Lessons

Success on this project will depend on lessons in:

- Feature script format
- Basic 3-point lighting

Links

This project connects to B4 and C4 in the other Film assessments.

Resources

Essential resources include excerpts from established screenplays as reference models such as can be found Robert McKee's book, *Story*.

Variants

This project might be modified by having students create the scene from a different character's POV, from an objective angle rather than a subjective one, or vice versa, rather than merely duplicating it as is.