The collaborative film project

IB DP Film HL collaborative film project full package

The collaborative film project

- work in a **core production team**, each member in one production role;
- agree a shared **artistic intention** before filming;
- contribute to all four phases of filmmaking;

The collaborative film project (2)

- make a completed film of at most 7 minutes;
- write an individual **project report** on your role and the **collaboration**.

The core production team

- The **core production team** is a small group of students.
- Each member takes one of the production roles from the guide (screenwriter, director, cinematographer, editor or sound), but everyone contributes to all four phases:
- Before the shoot, the team writes down its **artistic intention** : what the film should make the audience feel or understand, and how.
- A film needs hundreds of decisions.

The completed film

- The **completed film** is at most 7 minutes.
- It is judged as a film: how well the elements of film language work together to create meaning, and how clearly each member's role contributes.
- The 7-minute limit forces structure.
- A plan for "The Last Bus":

The project report

- describe **your** decisions, not the team's in general;
- write disagreements fairly, from both sides, and show how the intention decided them;
- keep the challenges in: they are evidence of real **collaboration**;
- support claims with evidence: frames from the film, storyboard pages, schedule changes.

Sources for this lesson

- International Baccalaureate, *Film guide* (first assessment 2019).
- C. Gottlieb, *The Jaws Log* (1975).
- W. Murch, *In the Blink of an Eye: A Perspective on Film Editing* (2nd edition, 2001).
- S. Spielberg (director), *Jaws* (1975).

Common errors

- Starting to film without a written, shared intention.
- One member doing everything while others watch, so roles are not visible.
- Making a film longer than 7 minutes, or with no clear structure.

Common errors (2)

- Writing the report about the team in general instead of your own role and decisions.
- Leaving out the challenges, or blaming teammates instead of explaining how problems were solved.
- Claims in the report with no evidence from the film or the planning.

Key terms

- **Collaborative film project**: the HL task in which a **core production team** makes a completed film of at most 7 minutes.
- **Core production team**: a small group of students, each in one production role, working on all phases.
- **Artistic intention**: a written statement of what the film should do to its audience and how.

Key terms (2)

- **Pre-production**: the planning phase before filming: script, storyboard, schedule and locations.
- **Post-production**: the phase after filming: editing, sound mixing, colour and titles.
- **Project report**: an individual report of at most 2,000 words on one member's role and the **collaboration**.

Check yourself

- 1.
- State the film length, report length and weighting of the HL collaborative film project. 2.
- Name the four phases of filmmaking. 3.
- Why should the team write its intention before the shoot? 4.