



## **PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs Tutorial Assessment: Introduction**

Write a short response to each question:

What are PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs (SRL)?

What are three things you already know about news reporting:

- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)

You will be learning the basics of news reporting from the SRL tutorials, write two questions you already have about news reporting:

- 1.)
- 2.)

There are many people involved to create a news story. Let's start with learning about two important ones: the producer and the camera operator. Write either a "P" for producer or "CO" for camera operator next to each responsibility:

Researching and writing the story \_\_\_\_\_

Creating the voice-over for the story \_\_\_\_\_

Capturing all visual and audio components \_\_\_\_\_

Formulating the questions for the interview \_\_\_\_\_

Capturing B-roll \_\_\_\_\_

The point person to all team members including the teacher and SRL mentor \_\_\_\_\_

Which role would you prefer to have and why?



## **PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs Tutorial Assessment: Location**

*Even before shooting a story, there are important steps to take when setting up a location.*

*Correct the statements below and explain the importance of each one:*

1. When arriving to an interview the producer and camera operator should dress casually so they will be comfortable during the shoot.

2. Make sure to arrive 15-30 minutes before or after the scheduled interview time, and begin the interview as soon as you arrive.

3. Your subject's desk is often the best place to film your interview because of its lack of distractions. Be sure the computer screen is on and in the shot.

*List the four main points that you should consider when choosing a location and explain why they are important:*

1.

2.

3.

4.

Define the term and explain how to successfully accomplish or avoid it:

set dressing-

backlighting-

Circle the examples of good locations for an interview, cross out the bad locations and briefly defend your answer below the image:



**Bonus:**

Choose your own story/subject and list three good locations for your interview and two bad ones:

Story/subject:

Good locations:

- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)

Bad locations:

1.)

2.)



## PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs Tutorial Assessment: Setup

rollers two stool location chairs doors WD-40 three swivel

Using the box above choose the correct term and fill in the blank:

After you have chosen your \_\_\_\_\_ it is now time for setup. During setup you only need to have \_\_\_\_\_ people, however \_\_\_\_\_ is better. This way each person can tackle different jobs like lighting, setting up the camera, and making sure \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ don't squeak. It is always a good idea to pack \_\_\_\_\_ in your bag to fix those pesky noises. Try to find chairs that are not on \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ because you want your subject to sit up and be still during the interview. In fact, the best thing for your subject to sit on is a \_\_\_\_\_.

Before you are ready to shoot your interview there are several things you need to do first. Give short answer to each question below:

Why is it important to complete your setup **before** you ask your subject to come on set be interviewed?

How can you test for lighting and framing before the subject arrives?

Why is it a good idea to put a sandbag on the light fixture?

What can the producer be doing while others are setting up the lighting and camera?

When prepping the camera for a shoot there are several important items that the camera operator needs to take care of. *List four:*

1.)

2.)

3.)

4.)

**PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs Tutorial Assessment: Audio**

|    |           |           |            |       |                |         |    |
|----|-----------|-----------|------------|-------|----------------|---------|----|
| 10 | shoulders | batteries | headphones | input | battery tester | sternum | 50 |
|----|-----------|-----------|------------|-------|----------------|---------|----|

*Using the box above choose the correct term and fill in the blank:*

In film audio is important because it makes up \_\_\_\_% of the medium. Before you do anything, make sure you have a pair of \_\_\_\_\_. Also, always make sure to check your \_\_\_\_\_ and bring extras in case yours run out. Buying a \_\_\_\_\_ is a good investment. Make sure you set the camera to the \_\_\_\_\_ that the microphone is hooked up to. The \_\_\_\_\_ is a good place to place your wireless microphone on your guest because it is close to the sound coming from the subject, and you can frame the shot so you don't see it.

Microphones:

There are four kinds of microphones discussed in the tutorial. Below you are asked to match each microphone to what it looks like, its description, and in what situation each microphone is best equipped to handle.

*Write the correct name of the microphone on its corresponding arrow:*

|                     |                    |                     |                     |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| wireless microphone | shotgun microphone | handheld microphone | internal microphone |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|



\_\_\_\_\_



*Match the microphone with its description:*

|                     |                    |                     |                     |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| wireless microphone | shotgun microphone | handheld microphone | internal microphone |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|

The \_\_\_\_\_ microphone is great for reporting a “man on the street” piece. One downside to this microphone is that it can cause people to feel nervous when being interviewed because it is right in their face.

The \_\_\_\_\_ microphone is omnidirectional and picks up all the noise in the room. It is located on the camera, and is really only useful to pick up ambient and natural sound.

The \_\_\_\_\_ microphone is good for mobility, but can be difficult to use and should be practiced with before your first interview. When using this kind of microphone touch the guest as little as possible and direct them where to place the looped microphone on their body.

The \_\_\_\_\_ microphone is attached to the side of the camera and is great to use as a backup microphone.

*Which microphone is most useful in the following situations? Write your answer next to the statement:*

A planned interview where you have time to set up-

Collecting “man on the street” interviews -

This versatile microphone that is great for backup-

If you have no other microphone to use and are in a controlled room-

*Write a definition for each term and explain how it is important to audio:*

room tone-

hums-



proximity effect-

**Bonus:**

What three things can go wrong when using a wireless microphone?

1.)

2.)

3.)

## PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs Tutorial Assessment: Lighting

*Fill in the blank using the words in the box below:*

key    window    fill    hair    three    sun

The standard lighting set up is called a \_\_\_\_ point setup. The \_\_\_\_\_ light is the strongest light and is placed at a 45 degree angle from the subject on the opposite side from the camera. If you don't have a light you can also use the \_\_\_\_\_ or a \_\_\_\_\_. Another light option is the \_\_\_\_\_ light which is placed at a 90 degree angle from the subject, and fills in shadows cast by the key light. The \_\_\_\_\_ light is used to create a rim of light around subject's head and shoulder to help those areas stand out from the background.

### Useful Lighting Vocabulary

barn doors- metal fixture mounted to a light source to help control the direction of the light



*When using a barn door make sure to wear gloves as it can get very hot*

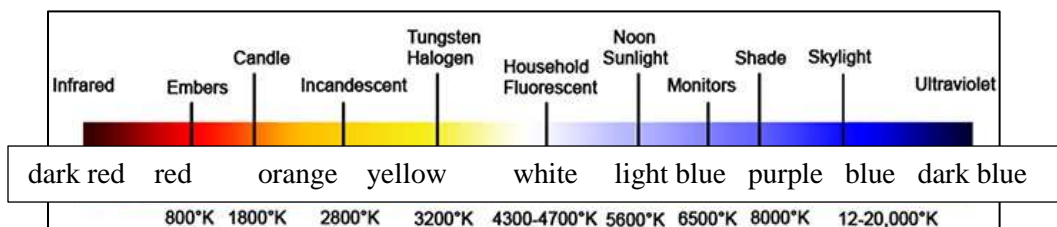
diffused light- light that is spread out instead of concentrated and produces softer light

diffusion gel- a translucent filter used to soften lighting

flexfill- a flexible springy cloth mounted to a solid shape that is used to diffuse and reflect light back on the subject. See different colors, shapes and sizes below:



lighting/color temperature- Color is produced by a lighting source dependent on its temperature in degrees Kelvin. See below for examples:



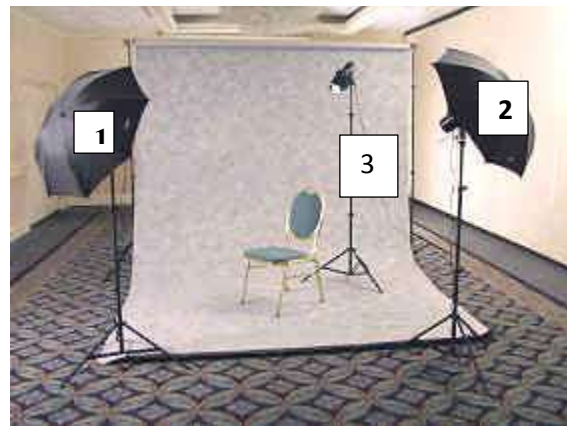
texture- the feel, appearance, or consistency of a surface or a substance

## The 3- Point Setup

The standard method used when shooting in 2-Dimensions (film, photography) is called the three point setup. By using three lights in the positions seen below you are able to illuminate the subject, control for shadows, and create texture to make images “pop” even though they are still in 2-D.

*Identify each light in the picture below then explain how you know in your answer:*

1.



2.

3.

## Hard and Soft Lighting:

*Complete the table below and write an “X” to indicate which type of lighting is being described:*

| Descriptor  | Hard Lighting | Soft Lighting |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Light comes from a single source.   |               |               |
| Light has been diffused.  |               |               |
| This type of lighting does not look good in an interview.                       |               |               |
| This lighting clearly defines shadows and highlights imperfections on the skin. |               |               |
| This lighting is not good at emphasizing texture.                               |               |               |
| Diffusion gel can produce this kind of lighting.                                |               |               |

*Provide a short answer to the question and explain:*

Overhead lighting (like fluorescent ceiling lights) should be avoided at all costs, why? Comment on using direct overhead lighting outside as well as inside.

Why are things like barn doors, flexfills and diffusion gels helpful when lighting a setting? Explain and give specific examples.

If you are outside on a sunny day how can you make sure your subject and the lighting temperature behind them will match, and why is this important?

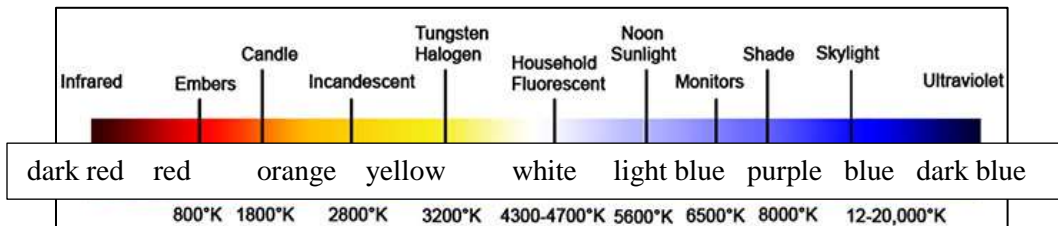
Film is only able to capture flat or 2-D images, so how can we create images that “pop” with lighting?

**Bonus:**

What can you do to make sure that your lighting stands don't get knocked over?

**PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs Tutorial Assessment: White Balancing**

White Balancing is the process of adjusting your camera so the colors in your image are as true as possible in a setting. Our eyes naturally adjust so that white remains white, but our cameras do not have that automatic ability.



The color temperature scale in degrees Kelvin ranges from lower heat- red to very high heat- blue. Look at the examples based on the heat produced by different light sources and notice the difference between outdoor and indoor sources.

Explain the reasons behind the statements below:

You should white balance a camera every time you change lighting conditions.

The automatic white balance setting on a camera is rarely your best option to get the truest colors.

Using the preset white balance setting on your camera can be tricky.

Place a number beside each step in white balancing in the correct order:

\_\_\_\_\_ Find something white and hold it up in front of the camera.

\_\_\_\_\_ Manually set the white balance on your camera.

\_\_\_\_\_ Set up the lighting for your location.

\_\_\_\_\_ Zoom-in all the way in with your camera on a white object so that white fills the entire screen on your camera.

*Apply your knowledge of the color temperature scale to white balancing:*

Which has a higher color temperature, a cloudy day or a candle, and why?

Why will locations with outdoor lighting automatically have higher color temperatures than a location being shot indoors?

Why do we have to white balance every time there is a change in the light setting?

**Bonus:**

*List three objects you can easily find and use to do a white balance:*

- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)



## **PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs Tutorial Assessment: Interview**

*There are important things you need to do after you setup, but before the interview starts.*

*Explain why they are important:*

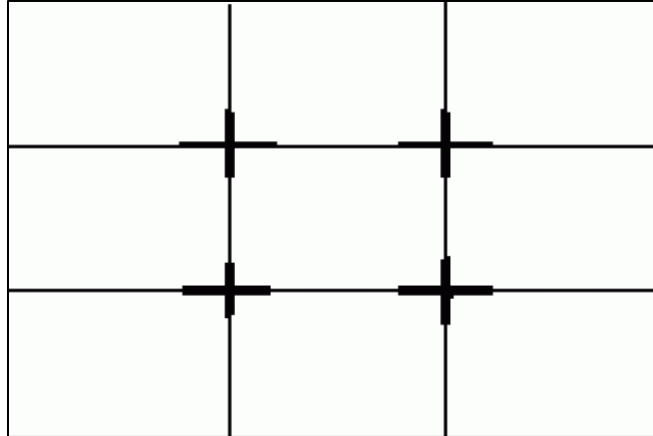
1. Prepare your subject-
  
2. Turn off all cell phones-
  
3. Ask subject to wait a beat before answering a question and rephrase the question into their answer in a complete sentence-

*Describe how you can make your subject feel as comfortable as possible:*

*Circle true or false after the statement and then explain its importance to a good interview:*

1. The camera operator should frame the shot so the camera is pointing down at the subject. T/F
  
2. Using the “rule of thirds” the camera operator should frame the subject so that they are captured looking across access at the interviewer. T/F

Inside the box draw a stick figure (with eyes) to demonstrate the correct framing of the subject.



interrogation   not   name   manual   reframe the shot and do a close up  
title   interview   what did you have for breakfast this morning   audio

Using the box above choose the correct term or phrase and fill in the blank:

The camera operator should always have his camera set to \_\_\_\_\_ during an interview. He should \_\_\_\_\_ look at the subject because it may be distracting. A good first question to ask the subject is \_\_\_\_\_?

This gives the camera operator time to set the \_\_\_\_\_ levels. Also, ask the subject to state their \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. You should listen to your subject, it is an \_\_\_\_\_ not an \_\_\_\_\_. When asking your most important questions or questions that may illicit an emotional response the camera operator should \_\_\_\_\_.

Questions

Give four examples of **good** ways to start questions, and two **bad** ways. Explain why this is important in the box to the right:

**Good**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.





**Bad**

- 1.
- 2.

*What is the most important question to ask, and when should you ask it?*

*After you complete your interview you should:*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Bonus:**

How should you dress to an interview if you are the producer, the camera operator?



## PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs Tutorial Assessment: B-roll

*Fill in the blank using the terms in the box below. Note that not all terms will be used:*

|  |
|--|
| edits dynamic subject 5 before after engaging 20 supplemental boring 10 relevant |
|--|

B-roll is supplemental footage that is \_\_\_\_\_ to what the \_\_\_\_\_ is talking about. B-roll is crucial to produce a story that is both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. You never want a shot of someone talking for more than \_\_\_-\_\_\_ seconds. B-roll is also important when hiding \_\_\_\_\_. Try to get B-roll of the subject \_\_\_\_\_ you interview them. Filming them at that time is important for two reasons:

- 1.)
- 2.)

### The Five-Shot Method

*Provide the correct term for the acronym W.O.C.H.U. and explain the shot if needed:*

W  
O  
C  
H  
U

*Provide a short answer to each question below:*

1. How long should each shot be held for, and how can you capture three shots in one set up?
2. If your subject doesn't have time for you to take B-roll of them what should you do?

3. What kind of noise do you want to capture and what kind of noise don't you want to capture?

4. What is ambient sound and how is it different from room tone?

5. What are the important things to remember when shooting B-roll featuring minors?

In the space next to each image identify which W.O.C.H.U shot is being used and defend your answer by explaining the shot:



Circle true or false after the statement. If the statement is false, change it to make it correct:

1. There is such a thing as too much B-roll. T/F

2. When panning or tilting you should hold the camera for five seconds, tilt (or pan), and then hold it again for five seconds. T/F

3. It is helpful to bring a monopod, a tripod, and a minipod so you can capture many angles. T/F

**Bonus:**

*Choose a story topic and provide examples of what you would shoot for B-roll using the W.O.C.H.U. model.*