

Chapter 9 - Cinematography: Sight & Sound – Quiz

Ramiro Hernandez 5.22.2016

1---Describe the basic duties of a DP. Explain the difference between a director of photography and a cinematographer.

The purpose of a DP is to ensure that visual image is captured at the highest possible quality. The DP does not operate the camera whereas the cinematographer does.

2---What jobs comprise the director of photography's crew? What are the duties of each member of his team?

The DP works with a camera operator, 1st assistant camera operator (focus puller) and the 2nd camera assistant (dapper loader).

3---Why is depth perception important when lighting an actor?

The entire purpose of lighting is to highlight the subject from the background. We need to do this because we as humans have stereovision. That is, we have two eyeballs, or cameras, that combine to make one image. Those two cameras give us depth perception, which is what enables us to distinguish the distance between foreground and background. With filmmaking, there is only one camera, or eyeball, so it does not have the benefit of stereo imaging, and there is no natural depth perception. We must provide that depth perception, and we do so through lighting.

4---What are the three main lights used in cinematography? How are they used together to create "the visual image"?

The key, fill, and backlights. The key light is a light that is shined directly at the subject's face. This tends to wash all of the shadows out of a face and make it look flat. Shadows can be restored with a fill light. The fill light is a light that is on the side of the subject and causes shadows to be cast by the nose and brow. The backlight is added which separates the subject's head and causes a halo effect.

5---What is the difference between tungsten incandescents and HMIs? What is the purpose of each?

Tungsten gives you a yellow light whereas HMI's give you a blue light. These lights are great effects to establish moods and themes.

Chapter 9 - Cinematography: Sight & Sound – Quiz

Ramiro Hernandez 5.22.2016

6---What are some of the other tools a director of photography will use to create lighting effects?

Gels are normally use to change the color of the light. Gells are simply colored sheets of cellophane. Scrins are anything that the crew uses in front of a light to diffuse it. They are usually made out of fabric. A bounce is used to bounce light from one source in another direction. These are usually large pieces of reflective foam, a shinny piece of plastic or even mirrors

7---What are the different parts of a camera?

These are the standard parts: Lenses, filters, and aspect rations.

8---Why is "vetting" your DP so important? When vetting him, what characteristics are you looking for? What do you want to avoid?

When choosing a DP, the same care needs to be taken as when choosing the actors. The characteristics should be easy to work with, that he is smart, competent, and experienced. We need to avoid conflict arguments during the shooting.

9--What is the most important quality of a camera?

Excluding light,

Chapter 9 - Cinematography: Sight & Sound – Quiz

Ramiro Hernandez 5.22.2016

10--What is a lens and what is its primary purpose?

Is a collection of glass elements of different shapes mounted in a barrel made of metal or plastic. The primary purpose of the lens is to form a sharp image of an object onto the focal plane, where the film is located.

11---What is focal length and what does it affect?

Is the magnification power of a lens usually expressed in millimeters. The greater the focal length, the larger the image will appear on the focal plane.

12---What is controlled by the iris?

Regulates the intensity of light that travels to the film. This allows the image to be brighten or darkened much as a dimmer in your home would do the same to an electric light.

13---What does the shutter control?

Controls the length of time that light is exposed to the film. This time is measured in fractions of a second.

14--In your own words, why is well executed sound important?

The sound recreated and added into a film makes the film experience a realistic environment, and more please experience.

15--Who generally comprises a sound crew?

Is usually composed of a mixer, boom operator, and one or two assistants.

Chapter 9 - Cinematography: Sight & Sound – Quiz

Ramiro Hernandez 5.22.2016

16--Why does the mixer need to make sure levels are kept within a proper range?

The job of the mixer is to supervise the audio department, provide the equipment and determine microphone placement. The mixer monitors the levels of each mic, making adjustments, to keep those levels within a proper range. Sounds that are recorded at too high of a level will be distorted and difficult to fix in post-production.

17--What are the tasks of a sound assistant?

The sound assistants have a number of tasks, especially on larger productions. Attaching wireless mics to the actors is one of their primary duties, along with retrieving those mics when that actor leaves the set. Wrapping cables and changing batteries in the wireless mics and other devices are just some of the duties.

18--What is time code used for?

Enables the on-set digital imaging technician (DIT) to show the director what previous takes look and sound like. The same reference is also used by the editor in post-production to sync, picture and audio for editing.