



JOURNALSIM & FILMMAKING WORKBOOK

SHOOTING INTERVIEWS

WEEK 6
CHAPTER 6
GRADES 9-12

LENGTH: 60-90 MIN.

OBJECTIVES

Students will...

- Practice setting up and conducting interviews
- Explore framing, composition, calling roll, and the importance of location
- Simulate the filming environment and rehearse technical and directional roles during a “circuit interviewing” activity

MATERIALS NEEDED

- MY HERO Journalism & Filmmaking Workbook (pages 63-72)
- Writing utensils
- Camera Equipment - ex. iPad, DSLR, etc.
- Sound Equipment - ex. Lav mic, boom mic, etc.
- Other Filming Equipment - ex. Tripod, SD card, Clapperboard etc.
- **Accompanying Slide Deck**

ADD’L RESOURCES & LINKS

- [Shooting Video on iPhone: How to Record Professional Videos](#)
- [MAKE Your Story: Interviews](#)
- [1 Minute @ Baycat on Framing](#)
- [Using Zoom or Other Video Conferencing to Film Interviews](#)

OVERVIEW

- Watch and Learn: An Interview
- Choosing a Location
- Introduction to Composition
- Parts of The Slate
- Calling Roll
- Activity: Circuit Interviewing

OPENING DISCUSSION

Workbook pg. 49

Watch and Learn

Watch some award-winning films from the MY HERO International Film Festival. Pay attention to the appearance of the interview (How is it lit? What’s in the background? How is the interviewee positioned?)

[Link to Films](#)

CHOOSING A LOCATION

Workbook pg. 63

Choose a location that reflects who your interview subject is. When you interview someone, they become a character in your film. The setting in which you film them is a chance to develop that character and let us know more about them. When the audience sees this person, what will be in the foreground and/or background

SOME EXAMPLES

- The interviewee’s home
- The interviewee’s place of work or office
- Any other location that means something to the person you are interviewing or the cause they’re working towards.



CHOOSING A LOCATION

Workbook pg. 63

Things to Keep in Mind

- *Audio.* Choose a location that is quiet.
- *Lighting.* Ideally, you want to schedule the interview during the day, at least two hours before sunset. This will give you the option of using natural light, whether you film outdoors or indoors using light provided by windows.
- Above all else, choose a location where the interviewee is comfortable talking to you.

COMPOSITION

Workbook pg. 69-72

- Refer to pages 69-72 or slides 9-12 for information and examples on composition and framing.
- Refer to slides 13-14 for information and examples of “Calling Roll” on a set and “Slating”

ACTIVITY: CIRCUIT INTERVIEWING

Within your crews divide into the following different roles:

- Interviewer: You will ask questions
- Interviewee: You will answer questions
- Camera Operator: You will practice composition
- Sound Operator: You will recording sound
- Assistant Director: You will practice calling roll and slating (for today you will also call action/cut)

Take turns doing each role, switching every 3 interview questions until everyone has had a chance to try each role

HOMEWORK

- Use page 65-66 to plan out locations
- Request to use locations