



Shots vs. Scenes and Transitions

A **shot** is a single continuous angle of view that probably only shows one part of the action in a scene. When the shot is filmed that is a *take*. If the take isn't good then there will need to be another take, also known as a *re-take*.

A **scene** is a unit of story that takes place at a specific **location** and **time**. If one of these changes, you have a new scene. A scene is a collection of shots and a shot is every time you have an edit. Scenes are often set apart from each other in tone by location, lighting, soundtrack, a change in action, etc.

A scene is a collection of shots



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Shot 1 – Mid Shot of Group

Shot 2 – Medium Close Up
of 1 character

Shot 2 – Medium Close Up
of another character

Shots vs. Scenes - continued



We will use the short video “The Standoff”.

<https://vimeo.com/389785961>

The first animation is more of a title sequence

Scene 1 – The boys and the girls are having an argument

Scenes 2, 4, and 6 – The boys are picking a champion

Scenes 3, 5, and 7 – The girls are picking a champion



Scene 8 – The actual battle (The girls win)

Scene 9 – The exit: The girls celebrate, the boys pout

The title sequence is repeated to bookend the start

The “Easter Egg” is a post-credits shot with a punchline



Transitions



Scene transitions are a way to indicate how we got from one scene to another. If the next scene is in a different location, the transition might address how the character got there. (Walked outside, drove a scooter to the store, got on a plane to Montreal, etc.)

If the next scene is in the same location but some time later, a scene transition would include the passage of time in some way (clock advancing minutes or hours, sun rising or setting, seasons changing, etc.) Sometimes a scene transition will include a musical transition. If the scenes do not have musical soundtrack, maybe the scene transition would include a few seconds of music or sound effect as one scene transitioned to another. If each scene has a musical soundtrack, the transition in music may be one of the first clues that a new scene is starting.



The transition between scenes 1 and 2: The boys and girls head off in opposite directions



The transitions between scenes 2 – 7 fade to black since the scenes are short and physically close



The transition between scenes 7 and 8 shows the boys and girls returning to battle

Transitions - continued



Scene 1 has a very tense musical soundtrack. It is designed to give the feeling of going into battle.

Scenes 2 – 7 have a very lighthearted soundtrack. They are discussing their strengths, but constantly poking fun at each other in the process. It has a very different feel than the scenes before and after. Scene 7 ends with an actual musical cadence indicating the humorous section is over.

Scene 8 returns to the tense soundtrack because it is the actual battle, and the end of the video ends on the end of the musical piece.

Assignment



Make a short movie in at least 3 scenes.

Each scene should be distinct from the other scene.

For the purpose of THIS exercise, a new scene is defined by being one of the following things:

- A. The same person or people In a new location
- B: Different person or people in a new location
- C: The same person in the same location after some time has passed.
- D: Different person in the same location after some time has passed.

Scenes 1 and 3 can be in the same location if that serves the story.

Use scene transitions to indicate how we got from one to another.