Cinematography attributes

Art & Culture, Artists



1 - What are the attributes of a Condenser Microphone?

Condenser Microphones have higher frequencies and louder noise. They are also more sensitive to loud sounds. It is because of their sensitiveness to sound that they are preferred in studios.

2 - How does a Waveform monitor and Vectorscope help when lighting a Blue/Green screen?

A Waveform monitor helps to understand the variation in the brightness of a video frame that may not be visible to naked eye. With the help of a portable computer, the brightness of a Blue/Green screen can be adjusted.

Vectorscope helps by making sure that the blue/green screen has enough saturation in order to achieve effective and easy keying.

3 - Look at the end montage sequence from "Ally McBeal". Pick three scenes out of seven scenes below and discuss the cinematography (camera movement, focus, colors, lighting, depth of field, composition, lenses, etc.). Scene 2:

This scene shows a close up of the character. This is done to make the character appear more personal. Since this is an indoor shot, the light appears only from one angle, which is supposed to represent the window. The composition of the scene makes it instantly recognizable as an office scene. The formal attire, the office chair and the wooden furniture sends out clear signal of an office setting.

Scene 4:

In this scene, the two actors are involved in an intimate scene. In order to strengthen this feeling of intimacy, the lights are induced from behind which casts the figures in shadows and brings out their silhouette. This is a medium shot where viewers are able to see beyond the character's portraits. In this scene, the figures stand in the middle of the composition which makes them the center figure of attention.

Scene 5:

In this scene, the character stands slightly off center. Furthermore, the figure is cast in shadows. The scene is brighter on the left side where the Christmas lights are being lit. The right side of the character's profile is set in shadow because there is no source of light on the right.