## Flash back essay



The title of our piece we produced is "flash back" My group consisted of umar hanif, haseeb yasin, sohail javed, raheel bashir, micahel edwards and my self. We all agreed to create the opening ten minutes of a film.

When working in a group with more than two people there will always be some disagreement due to contrasting ideas. This will inevitability causes difficulty with particular aspects with the film's production. Finally after much debate our story is based on gang war. Our story line is just same as " tu pac" death where he is been shot and killed by the ones who felt in jealousy with him, whereby we shown LLT known as micahel edwards life story where he is an popular rap star. Later after a few fights and chases the rap star is stabbed down by one of the gang people.

Our opening two minutes will relate to this by showing his death which however we will make it as a flash back scene later we will reveal his life story that how he came into involving with the gang. In this opening shot we see relatively clearly the LLT face, which is not common in the thriller genre. We intended to show our project for the audience aged 15 or above because our classifications of the images were not seemed to show it to 12 or below age group audience, the trailer should be shown at in the cinema with the rating movie because this will intend to make audience who watch thriller and action type movies will make a difference on there minds that they will next time watch this movie of seeing the trailer for 2 minutes. We viewed a number of thriller movies including "Spider man" "We were soldiers" 'The Negotiator' Felix Gary Grey, '187' Kevin Reynolds, 'Enemy of the State' Tony Scott and various others and also we brought our own documentary on "tu pac" which helps us a lot in making the trailer. From about 80% of these

films the openings focused on the lead roles and attempted to establish the character of these roles.

This usually included his/her profession if any, his/her social status, friends or relatives and sometimes financial position, which I feel plays an important part in finding a target audience as the viewers can often relate to characters when they find similarities between the characters and themselves. I started almost immediately to think of story lines and sketched some storyboards with no real thought as to what we were capable of doing. These early sketches were later scrapped as they had impossible sceneries to replicate. We realised once we had a basic idea we could then write to, or visit the locations and request to film on their premises. If we received permission we could then work with genuine sets that actually existed and be far more certain in our ideas, as we knew we could re-enact. As it turned out our major difficulty of the production was our setting.

We requested permission from the head teacher and our class teacher MR Dickson to film in youth centre and orchard club in their authority and supervision. Five days before we were scheduled to film, a member of school staff informing us that it would not be possible to film in their car park, as may staff and parents come and park there cars. We now needed to find a new location to film and fast. We selected 2nd car park where we were given to film immediately. The advantage of this location was its proximity. We had to develop some shots, which caused us to alter our storyboards, perhaps for the better.

An example of this would be as the victim walks to the orchard in the entrance. However we found the victim was too distant from the camera and although signs of isolation may have been connoted in this shot, it wasn't what we were looking for. Also to have zoomed in on the victim, which would have caused the victim to be more prominent in the shot appeared extremely amateurish so we needed to invent a new scene but after some discussion with our teacher he let us to go ahead with the shot. One thriller convention that we discovered was to film just the underneath feet of my self in the car when the gang is following LLT to the orchard club this causes the audience to use their imagination as to what might happen next where he is going. The viewer also loses his/her sense of position and is set on edge. We wanted to use this as it builds tension in the scene and the audience will know action is imminent.

Another rather small feature of this scene is the path taken by the one of the gang members in comparison to the victim's when they are in the orchard club and fight with him. This mirrors the difference in life styles the two characters have taken. This shot is very simple as it is they talk face to face detracts attention to anything other then the characters on screen. The sound throughout the production also created complications, as we discovered when capturing the images, as the sound was not synchronised with the images.

Because of that we edited the music through our trailer. The camera was set in the position it was solely in order to pan around and capture the victim and the gang in one take. This shot was filmed freehanded, as there was not enough room on the ledge. The murder scene was difficult to film because at

first we wished to have jumpy confusing shots during the killing to suggest a frantic and crazed state of mind. However this did not integrate well with the slow and surreal opening, so we kept it simple, which suited to the mood we wanted to create and was a lot easier to film and edit.

The idea was to kill (IIt) in having the knife on his eye which we taken a closed up on knife and the eye. During editing we discovered some of our shots did not fit well as the continuity was wrong for example the gang consist an other guy in the orchard club who just taken part in beating LLT this needed to be rectified. I feel transitions are equally as important as the images, as they set the pace of the film because no matter how much action you may have in a particular shot, if the shots are cut together using dissolve transitions the images lose their strength. Also other connotations may be presented rather than the ideas the director had in mind. On the other hand if too much thought is put into the transitions the audience will lose concentration from the film itself. The music is rap throughout which makes the film more personal as everything and is basic concept for being a thriller.

The lacking factor that was apparent was our time management. It would have been impossible to set a time plan although we did have a basic one. However we all had different commitments at various times. Instead of a time plan we should have written down the exact time of day we needed to film what scenes, this would have saved time travelling up and down to Orhcard club to film a shot which we forgot to do.

We have acquired a lot of skills over the period of construction and editing, ranging from computing skills to lighting expertise. This has given us a better

knowledge of the practical side of media causing us to understand why media is such a big part of our everyday life.