

NOCTI Audio, Video, Technology, and Film (AVTF) COV Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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SAMPLE

Questions

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- 1. Which process involves adjusting color balance and contrast in video editing?**
 - A. Color grading**
 - B. Chroma keying**
 - C. Mixing**
 - D. Editing**
- 2. Which software is usually best suited for video editing?**
 - A. Spreadsheet software**
 - B. Photo editing software**
 - C. Video editing software**
 - D. Word processing software**
- 3. Which interface connects host bus adapters to mass storage devices like hard disk drives and optical drives?**
 - A. Serial ATA (SATA)**
 - B. Small Computer System Interface (SCSI)**
 - C. Universal Serial Bus (USB)**
 - D. Peripheral Component Interconnect (PCI)**
- 4. In a television production context, what does the term 'focus puller' refer to?**
 - A. The person who operates the camera**
 - B. The person responsible for changing lenses**
 - C. The person who adjusts the camera's focus during a shot**
 - D. The person in charge of lighting**
- 5. Which lighting technique tends to make subjects appear flat in television lighting?**
 - A. Backlighting**
 - B. Soft flat lighting**
 - C. High contrast lighting**
 - D. Spotlighting**

- 6. What is the term for empty space with timecode applied to enable frame accuracy for insert shots?**
- A. Blacked Videotape**
 - B. Empty Frame**
 - C. Insert Track**
 - D. Control Track**
- 7. An edited master tape should begin with which of the following?**
- A. Introductory credits**
 - B. SMPTE bars and tone**
 - C. A news reel**
 - D. Correlative sketches**
- 8. What type of cable is specifically rubberized and is meant to carry audio signals?**
- A. XLR Cable**
 - B. RCA Cable**
 - C. 1/4" Phone Plug**
 - D. BNC Cable**
- 9. According to OSHA guidelines, which step is prohibited when using a ladder?**
- A. Standing on the second step**
 - B. Adjusting the ladder while on it**
 - C. Standing on the top step**
 - D. Climbing without assistance**
- 10. What encompasses stories published below the fold in a newspaper?**
- A. Articles that attract viewers**
 - B. Less important news stories**
 - C. In-depth analysis of events**
 - D. Exclusive interviews with celebrities**

Answers

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1. A
2. C
3. A
4. C
5. B
6. A
7. B
8. A
9. C
10. B

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Explanations

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1. Which process involves adjusting color balance and contrast in video editing?

- A. Color grading**
- B. Chroma keying**
- C. Mixing**
- D. Editing**

Color grading is the process that involves adjusting color balance and contrast in video editing. This technique is essential for enhancing the visual aesthetic of a video. During color grading, editors manipulate the color tones, brightness, shadows, and highlights to create a specific mood or atmosphere in the footage. It allows for the correction of any color imbalances that may have occurred during filming, ensuring that the final product is visually cohesive and aligned with the creator's artistic vision. Other processes listed serve different purposes; for example, chroma keying is primarily used for creating composite images by substituting a color (typically green or blue) with another background. Mixing refers to the blending of various audio tracks together, ensuring that sound levels and balance are appropriate, while editing is a broader term that encompasses the overall process of assembling, cutting, and rearranging video sequences. These processes may involve some aspects of visual adjustments but do not specifically focus on the color balance and contrast adjustments that are key components of color grading.

2. Which software is usually best suited for video editing?

- A. Spreadsheet software**
- B. Photo editing software**
- C. Video editing software**
- D. Word processing software**

Video editing software is specifically designed to accommodate the unique requirements of editing video footage. This type of software offers a wide range of specialized tools that allow users to manipulate video clips, add transitions, apply effects, and adjust audio tracks to achieve a polished final product. Unlike other types of software, such as spreadsheet, photo editing, or word processing software, video editing software focuses on handling video formats, managing timelines, and facilitating the use of various codecs, which are essential for high-quality video playback. Other types of software, while useful in their respective domains, do not provide the necessary functionality for effective video editing. Spreadsheet software is geared toward data analysis and financial computations, photo editing software is tailored for image adjustments, and word processing software is intended for text creation and formatting. Each of these has its purpose but lacks the specialized features needed for the complexities of video editing.

3. Which interface connects host bus adapters to mass storage devices like hard disk drives and optical drives?

- A. Serial ATA (SATA)**
- B. Small Computer System Interface (SCSI)**
- C. Universal Serial Bus (USB)**
- D. Peripheral Component Interconnect (PCI)**

The correct choice for the interface that connects host bus adapters to mass storage devices like hard disk drives and optical drives is Serial ATA (SATA). SATA is a widely used interface designed specifically for connecting storage devices to a computer's motherboard. It allows for high-speed data transfer rates while being more efficient and having a simpler design compared to older interfaces. SATA is particularly effective for hard drives and optical drives due to its serial communication method, which only requires one data channel to transmit information, thus simplifying the connections and improving overall performance. This makes it ideally suited for modern storage solutions, ensuring faster boot times and quicker data access. Other options may involve different types of connections. For instance, SCSI is also a valid option for connecting storage devices but is typically used in a different context, often in enterprise environments or legacy systems. USB is primarily intended for peripheral devices rather than internal storage connections, and PCI is primarily a bus interface that allows different hardware components to communicate, but it does not directly connect storage devices like SATA does.

4. In a television production context, what does the term 'focus puller' refer to?

- A. The person who operates the camera**
- B. The person responsible for changing lenses**
- C. The person who adjusts the camera's focus during a shot**
- D. The person in charge of lighting**

The term 'focus puller' in television production specifically refers to the individual responsible for adjusting the camera's focus during a shot. This role is crucial as maintaining the correct focus is essential for achieving the desired visual clarity and depth of field in the final image. The focus puller collaborates closely with the camera operator and the director of photography to ensure that the subjects remain sharp and clear throughout the scene, especially when there is movement or a change in the composition. While the camera operator is primarily responsible for capturing the shot and operating the camera itself, the focus puller manages the aspect of focus, allowing the camera operator to concentrate on framing and movement. Similarly, changing lenses is a task typically assigned to the camera operator or the first assistant camera (1st AC), while lighting responsibilities fall to another team member entirely, such as a gaffer or lighting technician. Thus, the focus puller's specialized role is vital in the production process, contributing significantly to the overall quality of the visual storytelling.

5. Which lighting technique tends to make subjects appear flat in television lighting?

- A. Backlighting**
- B. Soft flat lighting**
- C. High contrast lighting**
- D. Spotlighting**

The technique that tends to make subjects appear flat in television lighting is soft flat lighting. This lighting approach typically involves using broad, diffused light sources that evenly illuminate the subject without creating strong highlights or shadows. As a result, it minimizes texture and depth, leading to a two-dimensional appearance. Soft flat lighting is commonly used in situations where a more uniform and less dramatic look is desired, such as in interviews or news broadcasting. The absence of harsh shadows contributes to the flatness of the image, which can be beneficial for certain contexts but may lack the dimensionality and visual interest that other lighting techniques provide. High contrast lighting, backlighting, and spotlighting, on the other hand, each create different effects that can enhance dimensionality and drama within a scene, contributing to texture and shape rather than flattening the subject.

6. What is the term for empty space with timecode applied to enable frame accuracy for insert shots?

- A. Blacked Videotape**
- B. Empty Frame**
- C. Insert Track**
- D. Control Track**

The correct term for empty space with timecode applied to enable frame accuracy for insert shots is "Blacked Videotape." This concept is important in the field of audio, video, and film production, where precise timing is crucial for editing and inserting shots seamlessly. Blacked videotape refers to a tape that has been recorded with a solid color (often black) and includes specific timecode, allowing editors to identify exact frames for inserting new footage or making edits. The timecode ensures that when new footage is placed in, it aligns perfectly with the existing frames, maintaining visual continuity and synchronization within the final product. In contrast, the other options such as "Empty Frame," "Insert Track," and "Control Track" do not accurately describe the process of using empty space with timecode for the purpose of inserting shots. An empty frame generally refers to a frame in a video that contains no visual data but does not imply any timing mechanism. An insert track typically pertains to a specific area in non-linear editing software where new clips can be added, but it does not inherently include timecode. A control track is related to the management of playback and recording features in various media formats, rather than providing a method for inserting shots with timecode.

7. An edited master tape should begin with which of the following?

- A. Introductory credits**
- B. SMPTE bars and tone**
- C. A news reel**
- D. Correlative sketches**

An edited master tape should begin with SMPTE bars and tone because this standard test signal is essential for maintaining synchronization, ensuring proper video levels, and providing a reference for audio levels. SMPTE (Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers) bars serve as a color reference for video, allowing editors and engineers to adjust color balance and make necessary corrections before the main content begins. The tone, which is often a specific frequency, provides a reference sound level for audio mixing and mastering. This practice ensures that when the edited program is broadcasted or distributed, it meets the necessary quality standards in both visual and audio aspects. Introductory credits, news reels, and correlative sketches, while they may have their place in a finished production, are not standard components required at the very beginning of the master tape. They serve different purposes, such as engaging the audience or providing context, but starting with SMPTE bars and tone is crucial for technical reasons that ensure the overall quality of the tape.

8. What type of cable is specifically rubberized and is meant to carry audio signals?

- A. XLR Cable**
- B. RCA Cable**
- C. 1/4" Phone Plug**
- D. BNC Cable**

The correct choice is XLR Cable because it is specifically designed for professional audio applications. XLR cables are known for their robust construction, which often includes a rubberized or flexible outer layer that protects the internal wiring and connections, making them highly durable and effective in transmitting audio signals with minimal interference. XLR connectors feature a three-pin design that allows for balanced audio transmission, which helps reduce noise and improve sound quality. This is particularly important in live sound environments or studio settings where signal integrity is crucial. The rubberized coating not only provides protection against environmental factors but also adds flexibility, easing handling during setups and breakdowns. Other types of cables mentioned may carry audio signals as well, but they do not possess the same combination of durability and specifically designed audio transmission characteristics as XLR cables. For example, RCA cables are typically used for consumer-level audio and video connections and lack the balanced audio capability that XLR cables provide. The 1/4" phone plug is often used for instruments and can be found in both balanced and unbalanced formats, but it does not have the same level of professional application as XLR. BNC cables are generally used for video signals rather than audio.

9. According to OSHA guidelines, which step is prohibited when using a ladder?

- A. Standing on the second step**
- B. Adjusting the ladder while on it**
- C. Standing on the top step**
- D. Climbing without assistance**

Standing on the top step of a ladder is prohibited according to OSHA guidelines due to safety concerns. The top step is not designed to provide adequate support, and standing on it increases the risk of losing balance and falling. By maintaining a safe working position, typically two steps down from the top, users can ensure better stability and control while accessing elevated areas. When using ladders, it's critical to follow guidelines to minimize the risk of accidents. For instance, adjusting the ladder while already on it compromises safety, as it could lead to instability. Similarly, while standing on the second step is usually considered safe as long as it doesn't impede balance, the top step lacks the same safety assurance. Climbing without assistance may vary in safety depending on the situation, but it is generally acceptable if the ladder is stable and properly positioned. Following these guidelines is essential for preventing injuries and promoting a safe working environment.

10. What encompasses stories published below the fold in a newspaper?

- A. Articles that attract viewers**
- B. Less important news stories**
- C. In-depth analysis of events**
- D. Exclusive interviews with celebrities**

Stories published below the fold in a newspaper typically refer to content that is considered less important than those featured above the fold, which is the upper half of the front page visible when the newspaper is folded. This positioning suggests that the stories below the fold are not seen as the primary focus or most urgent news of the day; they may cover topics that are of interest but do not hold the same immediate significance as top stories. While the other options might describe various types of content that may appear elsewhere in the newspaper, they do not accurately reflect the general nature of below-the-fold stories. Articles that attract viewers usually focus on more sensational topics that are likely to be placed prominently. In-depth analyses may warrant placement above the fold if they are pivotal to current discussions. Exclusive interviews, especially with high-profile individuals, tend to be highlighted, placed in prime positions for maximum visibility. Thus, below-the-fold articles are primarily viewed as less crucial information compared to those that capture immediate attention from readers.