

# Single Camera Production - Film Terms Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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## **Questions**

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- 1. Which piece of equipment is essential for keeping light stands stable?**
  - A. Weights**
  - B. Sandbags**
  - C. Brackets**
  - D. Tripods**
- 2. Which professional is skilled in enhancing the color of film through digital or hardware techniques?**
  - A. Colorist**
  - B. Cinematographer**
  - C. Editor**
  - D. Visual Effects Artist**
- 3. What does the acronym AC stand for in film production positions?**
  - A. Audio Control**
  - B. Assistant Camera**
  - C. Action Crew**
  - D. Artistic Coordinator**
- 4. Which of the following terms refers to the delivery of food and beverages on a film set?**
  - A. Catering**
  - B. Craft services**
  - C. Snack bar**
  - D. Food station**
- 5. What is referred to as the highest paid members of the production team?**
  - A. Below the line**
  - B. Above the line**
  - C. Best Boy Grip**
  - D. Assistant Director**

- 6. Which film production term describes a device with heavy-duty support for lighting equipment?**
- A. Combo stand**
  - B. Stabilizer**
  - C. Brace**
  - D. Tripod**
- 7. What phrase indicates that everyone should return to their original positions for a take?**
- A. Back to 1**
  - B. Above the line**
  - C. 2nd AC**
  - D. Below the line**
- 8. In what context would you use the term "doorway dolly"?**
- A. For transporting cameras through tight spaces**
  - B. For filming exterior shots**
  - C. For carrying lighting equipment**
  - D. For creating smooth travel shots**
- 9. What is the role of a Lighting Director primarily focused on?**
- A. Editing**
  - B. Lighting Design**
  - C. Casting**
  - D. Sound Engineering**
- 10. What is known as the last shot of the day in film production?**
- A. Wrap Shot**
  - B. Finale Shot**
  - C. Martini Shot**
  - D. Close-out Shot**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which piece of equipment is essential for keeping light stands stable?**

- A. Weights**
- B. Sandbags**
- C. Brackets**
- D. Tripods**

The essential piece of equipment for keeping light stands stable is sandbags. Sandbags are used to add weight to the base of light stands, preventing them from tipping over due to the weight of attached lights or environmental factors like wind. Their ability to securely anchor the light stands ensures that the lighting equipment remains safe and functional during shoots, particularly in outdoor settings or when using larger lights that may have a higher center of gravity. While weights might seem like a valid answer as they can also provide stabilization, they are often used in a more general sense and can refer to various types of additional weights—including sandbags. Brackets are utilized to attach lights or other gear to stands or to extend their reach, but they do not inherently stabilize the stands themselves. Tripods are designed to support cameras rather than light stands and are not applicable to keeping light stands stable. Therefore, sandbags specifically serve the crucial role of maintaining the stability of light stands.

**2. Which professional is skilled in enhancing the color of film through digital or hardware techniques?**

- A. Colorist**
- B. Cinematographer**
- C. Editor**
- D. Visual Effects Artist**

A colorist is a professional specifically trained to enhance and manipulate the color and overall visual aesthetic of a film. This role involves using various digital tools and techniques to adjust colors, contrast, brightness, and saturation, ensuring that the final image aligns with the director's vision and enhances the storytelling. Colorists work closely with the cinematographer to understand the intent behind the original footage and aim to bring a cohesive look to the film, correcting any color inconsistencies and creating mood through color grading. In contrast, a cinematographer focuses on capturing images during shooting, including the arrangement of lighting and camera angles. An editor assembles the footage into a coherent story but primarily handles timing and pacing rather than color enhancement. A visual effects artist is skilled in creating digital effects and may work with color indirectly, but their primary role is not color grading but rather integrating CGI and other visual elements into the film. Hence, the expertise of a colorist is distinctly centered on the fine-tuning of color in post-production.

**3. What does the acronym AC stand for in film production positions?**

**A. Audio Control**

**B. Assistant Camera**

**C. Action Crew**

**D. Artistic Coordinator**

In film production, the acronym AC stands for Assistant Camera. This position is crucial on the set, as the Assistant Camera person, often referred to as an "AC," is responsible for a variety of tasks that assist the Director of Photography and maintain the technical quality of the camera work. Their duties typically include operating the focus puller, managing the camera equipment, marking actor positions, and ensuring that the camera is ready for each shot. This role supports the smooth operation of the filming process, allowing the cinematographer to focus on the overall visual aspects of the project without getting bogged down by technicalities or logistics. The other options do not accurately represent common film industry terminology. Audio Control, Action Crew, and Artistic Coordinator, while they may refer to roles or elements in broader production contexts, do not reflect a recognized position specifically designated by the acronym AC in the context of film production.

**4. Which of the following terms refers to the delivery of food and beverages on a film set?**

**A. Catering**

**B. Craft services**

**C. Snack bar**

**D. Food station**

The term that specifically refers to the delivery of food and beverages on a film set is "catering." Catering encompasses the overall provision of meals to the cast and crew, typically involving more substantial meals served during breaks, often organized by a professional catering company. "Craft services," while it may seem related, refers more specifically to the table that provides snacks and drinks throughout the day, available for the crew to grab at any time. Craft services often focuses on providing quick, accessible snacks rather than full meal services. "Snack bar" suggests a more casual setup with limited options, often found in public spaces, and is not specifically tailored for the needs of a film set. "Food station" is a more general term that could refer to any designated area for food but does not imply the organized structure and meal service that catering provides. Thus, catering is the correct term as it encompasses the structured and comprehensive delivery of food to a film set, distinguishing itself from the more casual offerings of craft services and other choices.

**5. What is referred to as the highest paid members of the production team?**

**A. Below the line**

**B. Above the line**

**C. Best Boy Grip**

**D. Assistant Director**

The term that denotes the highest paid members of the production team is "above the line." This term typically refers to key creative personnel involved in the development and production of a film or television project, including producers, directors, writers, and sometimes lead actors. These individuals are often pivotal in shaping the project and have a significant impact on its creative direction, which justifies their higher salaries compared to other members of the team. In contrast, the term "below the line" pertains to the crew members involved in the physical production of the film, such as camera operators, grips, and other technical staff, who usually earn lower salaries. The option of "Best Boy Grip" refers to a specific position within the grip department, responsible for managing the lighting gear and equipment, and does not encompass the broader category of leading creative roles. Similarly, the "Assistant Director" is an essential role that supports the director in managing the shooting schedule and crew but does not typically fall into the higher salary bracket of above-the-line personnel. Understanding these distinctions is crucial for grasping the hierarchy and roles within a film production.

**6. Which film production term describes a device with heavy-duty support for lighting equipment?**

**A. Combo stand**

**B. Stabilizer**

**C. Brace**

**D. Tripod**

The term that accurately describes a device with heavy-duty support for lighting equipment is a combo stand. Combo stands are specifically designed to hold various types of lighting fixtures and accessories; they typically feature a robust construction that allows them to support the significant weight of lights, reflectors, flags, and other necessary gear used in film production. The design of a combo stand usually includes both a grip head and a removable arm, allowing it to be versatile in holding different equipment configurations. This makes them suitable for various lighting setups on film sets, ensuring stability and safety. In contrast, a stabilizer is primarily used to keep the camera steady while moving, which does not relate to supporting lighting. A brace refers to a structural element that adds support but is not specifically a standalone device for lighting. A tripod is used for securing cameras rather than lighting equipment, making it unsuitable for this particular function.

**7. What phrase indicates that everyone should return to their original positions for a take?**

**A. Back to 1**

**B. Above the line**

**C. 2nd AC**

**D. Below the line**

The phrase "Back to 1" is widely used on film sets to instruct the cast and crew to return to their starting positions for a take. This term is derived from the idea that everyone should go back to "1," referring to the first position marked for the scene. It ensures that the action can be repeated consistently, maintaining the integrity of both performance and technical setups. In contrast, the other options relate to different aspects of film production. "Above the line" typically refers to the major creative contributors who are involved in the project, such as directors and producers, and does not pertain to physical positions on set. "2nd AC" stands for second assistant camera, a role responsible for various technical tasks related to the camera but not for directing actors' movements. "Below the line" relates to the crew members who handle technical and logistical duties but carries no connotation of actors returning to their original spots. Thus, "Back to 1" specifically addresses the need for all players to reset, making it the correct choice.

**8. In what context would you use the term "doorway dolly"?**

**A. For transporting cameras through tight spaces**

**B. For filming exterior shots**

**C. For carrying lighting equipment**

**D. For creating smooth travel shots**

The term "doorway dolly" specifically refers to a type of dolly designed to be used in tight spaces, such as doorways or narrow hallways, where traditional dollies with wider bases might not fit. This specialized dolly allows filmmakers to transport a camera smoothly while maneuvering around obstacles, ensuring that shots remain steady even in confined areas. While options related to filming exterior shots, carrying lighting equipment, or creating smooth travel shots provide valid contexts for other types of equipment and techniques, they do not specifically capture the unique design and purpose of a doorway dolly. The emphasis here is on the ability of the doorway dolly to navigate tight spaces with ease, making it the ideal choice for that particular context.

**9. What is the role of a Lighting Director primarily focused on?**

**A. Editing**

**B. Lighting Design**

**C. Casting**

**D. Sound Engineering**

The role of a Lighting Director primarily focuses on lighting design for film or video production. This position involves creating the visual mood and atmosphere of a scene through the strategic placement and use of lights. A Lighting Director collaborates closely with the Director and Cinematographer to ensure that the lighting enhances the storytelling, highlights the characters, and supports the overall aesthetic vision of the project. Effective lighting is crucial for both technical and artistic reasons, as it affects visibility and contributes significantly to the emotion conveyed through the visuals. The Lighting Director must have a deep understanding of how different types of lights, shadows, and colors can influence the viewer's perception and experience of the film. In short, the Lighting Director's expertise in lighting design shapes the look and feel of the production, making it an essential aspect of the filmmaking process.

**10. What is known as the last shot of the day in film production?**

**A. Wrap Shot**

**B. Finale Shot**

**C. Martini Shot**

**D. Close-out Shot**

The term that refers to the last shot of the day in film production is known as the Martini Shot. This is a colloquial term used in the film industry to signify that the crew has completed the day's work, and it often brings a sense of relief and accomplishment. The origin of this term is rooted in the idea that the Martini Shot is followed by drinks, symbolizing the end of a long filming period. This shot is crucial because it acts as a marker for the production schedule and allows everyone involved to understand that they can start to wind down for the day. It creates a sense of camaraderie and closure among the cast and crew, highlighting the teamwork that goes into film production. In contrast, the other terms provided are not commonly used to designate this specific moment in the filmmaking process.