

# EDITING

## STUDENT WORKSHEET #7

Select and organise clips to make one clear story.

### WHAT YOU'LL NEED



- A camera (video camera, phone, or tablet).
- Basic editing software (e.g., Windows Movie Maker or iMovie) Note: If you need help with operating these programs ask your teacher for some tips or do a quick online search for a video tutorial.
- A computer with internet connection ready to play [this video](#).
- A copy of a micro scene from Shakespeare (see attached)

### BEFORE THE ACTIVITY



Editing is a crucial job in filmmaking. It is the job of the editor, with guidance from the director, to take the raw footage and create one clear story. Editing influences the tone, feeling and meaning of the film. Watch [the video](#) featuring film and TV editor Christine Cheung giving tips on how to edit your film to create a clear story. Note down *at least three* tips mentioned by Christine.

### ACTIVITY



Try these exercises to put some of the ideas discussed in the video into practice.

1. Form groups of four or five people. **Film** each member of the group saying “You!” with any **emotion** you want. For example, happy, sad, surprised, angry, it’s up to you! Each one should be a separate clip.
2. Next, film every member of the group having a **reaction**. You might react in fright, laugh, gasp, be outraged, be surprised, again it’s up to you. Each one should be a separate clip.
3. Now we need to label the clips. **Label** all the “You!” clips with a number from 1 – 5. Label all the reaction clips with a letter from A – D.
4. **Import** all the clips into your editing software.
5. Using the software, **cut together** the clips in an order. You will need to make sure each “You!” clip is followed by a reaction clip.

For example you might order your clips:

1A, 2B, 3C, 4D

or you could do any number of orders such as:

2D, 1C, 4A, 3B

*NB: Don't worry about your cuts being neat or perfect, we are just playing at this stage!*

## ACTIVITY CONT.

6. **Save** each new order as one short video.
7. Now, **watch** each short video together as a group and discuss the following questions:
  - What kind of story is being told in each video?
  - Does the story make sense, or is it completely nonsensical?
  - What is the tone of the story? For example, funny, silly, strange, scary, sad, magical?
  - How different are the videos, even though they are the same clips in different orders, which versions are more interesting to you?
8. **Optional Activity: Creative writing**

Choose one of the videos and brainstorm a possible plotline, i.e. a backstory for the video. For example, perhaps one person is accusing another person of stealing their dog, then a bystander gets involved saying the person being accused is innocent, and so on.
9. **Optional Activity: Sound effects**

As an additional step, for the version you prefer, add **sound effects** and/or music. Note how you can affect the tone of the video by doing this. What kind of sound or music might suit? What kind of sound or music might change the tone completely?

## EXTENSION ACTIVITY



Repeat the above process using a micro scene from Shakespeare (see some options to choose from attached). This time you will need **two people as the actors**.

Think about where you might place the actors – i.e., are they talking directly to the camera, or will you have your actors in profile, one character facing left, and one character facing right, as if they are looking at each other?

You might also like to think about the **pace** of your cuts – quick editing can make a conversation seem urgent or dangerous, while lengthier pacing can give the conversation an entirely different tone.

**Edit** the scene together in the order that Shakespeare wrote it to start with, then play around with different orders, even if they make no sense. The point is to play and see what interests you!

*NB: If you are working solo, this could be a fun project to do yourself where you play both characters. It will end up looking like an argument or conversation with yourself, which is a fun creative concept!*

## MICRO SCENE 1

- Oberon            Ill met by moon light proud Titania
- Titania            What, jealous Oberon? Fairies skip hence  
I have foresworn his bed and company.
- Oberon            Tarry rash wanton! Am not I thy lord?
- Titania            Then I must be thy lady!

## MICRO SCENE 2

- Demetrius        I love thee not, therefore pursue me not.
- Helena            You draw me, you hard-hearted adamant.
- Demetrius        Do I entice you? do I speak you fair?  
Or, rather, do I not in plainest truth  
Tell you, I do not, nor I cannot love you?
- Helena            And even for that do I love you the more.

### MICRO SCENE 3

- Hermia            God speed fair Helena! whither away?
- Helena            Call you me fair? that fair again unsay.  
Demetrius loves your fair: O happy fair
- Hermia            I frown upon him, yet he loves me still.
- Helena            O that your frowns would teach my smiles such skill!
- Hermia            The more I hate, the more he follows me.
- Helena            The more I love, the more he hateth me.

### MICRO SCENE 4

- Quince            Francis Flute, the bellows-mender.
- Flute              Here, Peter Quince.
- Quince            Flute, you must take  
Thisby  
on you.
- Flute              What is  
Thisby? a wandering knight?
- Quince            It is the lady that Pyramus must love.
- Flute              Nay, faith, let me not play a woman; I have a beard coming.

## ABOUT CHRISTINE CHEUNG

Christine Cheung is a Sydney based Film and Television Editor. Growing up with a love of animation, MGM musicals, Alfred Hitchcock, and the television series 'Bill Collin's Golden Years of Hollywood'. She began her film career as an assistant editor on the films *Happy Feet*, *Australia*, *Animal Kingdom*, *The Great Gatsby* and *The Water Diviner*. She has cut the shorts *Red Rover* (SFF), *Shiloh* (MIFF), *Chicken* (BFI), *First Day* for ABC International Day of the Girl, the Presto web series *Let's Talk About* (Season 2), and *Woes* for ABC/Fresh Blood. She has co-edited the independent films *Zelos* and edited *The Greenhouse*, and the genre film *Nekrotronic*.

Two of her most recent projects ABC children's series *First Day* and the short film *Chicken* were nominated for AACTA awards 2020. *First Day* was also the recipient of the Rose d'Or Award for best Children and Youth Series, and First Prize in the Live Action Television category at the Chicago International Film Festival. *The Greenhouse* is currently screening at Queerscreen - Mardi Gras Film Festival 2021 and will make its international premiere in the BFI Flare program. *The Greenhouse* won the audience choice award at the Mardi Gras Film Festival 2021.