



Chapter 1

Introduction to Film



Types of Film

The different kinds of film:

- Feature film
- Short film
- Sketch/Skit

Different kinds of film



Example of feature film

A feature film is also called a movie, motion picture or just a film. The running time is usually 70 to 210 minutes.



Example of short film

A short film is any film that is not considered long enough to be called a feature film. Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences defines a short film as "an original motion picture that has a running time of 40 minutes or less



Example of skit/sketch

A skit or a sketch is a a series of short comedy scenes, commonly between one and ten minutes long. A sketch is a unscripted improvised scene, whilst a skit is scripted.

Types of Film

Some of the different genres in film:

- **Comedy**
- **Documentary**
- **Horror**
- **Romance**
- **Action**
- **Animation**

Many genres overlap, you do not need to make a film dedicated to one genre.

Different kinds of film

Comedy

Films intended to make people laugh, usually fiction.

- Satire, for example: This is the End
- Parody, for example: Scary Movie
- Slapstick, for example: There's Something About Mary

Romance

Films focused on a character's love story.

- Historical romance, for example: Titanic
- Chick flick, for example: The Notebook
- Romantic comedies, for example: Love Actually

Documentary

Films meant to tell a non-fiction story.

- Nature documentary, for example: Earth
- Mockumentary, for example: Drop Dead Gorgeous
- Reality film, for example: Girls Gone Wild

Action

Films that contain a lot of action, typically violence.

- Adventure, for example: Indiana Jones
- Thriller, for example: Die Hard
- Disaster, for example: San Andreas

Horror

Films meant to scare you, through fear and shock.

- Action, for example: Aliens
- Splatter, for example: The Human Centipede
- Comedy, for example: Zombieland

Animation

Films that are (partially) animated.

- Stop motion, for example: Coraline
- Anime, for example: Spirited Away
- Computer-animation, for example: Toy Story

Chapter 2

First Steps to Making a Film



First Choices

The first steps:

1. Choice of kind of film
2. Choice of genre
3. Availability
4. Establish budget

First choices

Kind of film

Choosing what kind of film you wish to make will be your first step. If you are a beginner, it is the easiest to make a short film or sketch/skit, instead of a feature film. Short film can be as long as four minutes and thus do not need to take as long to film.

Availability

Analyzing what you have to your disposal will help you before you have to decide on your budget. This includes location, props, equipment and manpower. You do not have to only think about the things you own, but can also consider borrowing equipment from your school or using your friend's house as a location.

Choice of genre

Choosing a genre will help you brainstorming during pre-production. You can also choose a genre whilst you are brainstorming. However, determining if your film is going to be non-fiction or fiction is a good start.

Establish budget

By establishing a maximum budget, you can scratch off certain projects that are too ambitious. The maximum budget covers paid manpower, location, props and additional equipment. This budget should always be kept in mind during pre-production and production.