

Megan Faller

Chapter 17 - Directing Three - The Shoot - Quiz

1. In your own words, why is a creative spirit the most important quality in a director?

The specific definition of 'creative spirit' is having the ability or power to create, or, characterized by originality of thought or inventiveness; having or showing imagination.

If a director does not have creative spirit, there is nothing. There is no originality, no creative spirit, nothing. But when a director does have creative spirit, they are able to... create. They are able to make a fake world from the ground up. They are able to create characters that an audience can relate to and love. If not directors had creative spirit, every single movie would be the same exact formula, with the same basic, cliché characters, in the same boring setting.

2. Were you prepared enough? What part of pre-production would you focus more on next time?

I was not nearly prepared enough as I thought I would be. I storyboarded the scene fully and somehow that still was not enough. This was very surprising to me. The part of pre-production I would focus more on next time is figuring out the exact shots and ahead of time instead of knowing just the general area of the shot.

3. Do you feel like you communicated well with the other departments on set?

I feel like I communicated well with the other departments on set but it could still use work. I noticed as I was directing, I was speaking clearly to myself but not to the others. There were times they did not understand what I meant and I had to go over it a few more times.

4. Were you able to communicate clear directions to your actors?

I was very surprised on how hard of a time I had giving directions to the actors. My problem is, I have a clear vision in my head and assume they understand exactly what I'm saying in little words. This is something I need to work on a lot. But there were definitely times where I was able to get my point across clearly, and the actor knew just what to do.

5. Were you satisfied with your choice of location?

For right now, yes I was satisfied with my choice in location but for the future of this film, I would most likely choose somewhere more fitting for the story. But for what I have now, it fit the script and setting well. There were a few shots that I personally thought were perfect setting wise.

6. What was the most difficult decision to make on your feet?

The most difficult decision I had to make on my feet was how to improvise a shot with no equipment. My plan was to ride a bike behind the actor and film but this did not result in the way I wanted. I ended up attaching the camera to myself and rode the bike that was. That specific shot ended up being my favorite out of all the shots.

7. What aspect of production went the smoothest?

The aspect of production that went the smoothest was the filming. Everything on that end went very nice. The look of the shots felt great, and there were technical issues with that. Other than that, there was something wrong with every aspect of the production.

8. Give an example of Murphy's Law in action during production.

An example of Murphy's Law in action during production is small things going wrong in every area. While filming, the light completely went away and it started raining. When I got a shot while riding a bike, the bike broke. Murphy's Law states "everything that can go wrong, will go wrong". I cannot agree more, especially after filming my own scene.

9. Why do you think the scene you shot is the best representation of your script?

I think the scene I shot is the best representation of my script because it is the opening scene where we meet the main protagonist. This introduces the setting, theme, feelings, etc about the film. The area I filmed was able to capture that closely which helped with choosing that specific scene, rather than filming a different scene where the setting does not match up at all.

10. Do you feel confident about your performance on set? What do you think was your strongest trait? Weakest?

I feel a little confident about my performance on set. This experience helped me realize just how much harder I need to be working on making sure my performance on set is much better than I did. My strongest trait on set was being able to come up with creative ideas on how to fix specific problems. An example of that would be not having anything to hold the camera and follow the bike, so I made my own.

My weakest trait on set would have to be explaining my creative vision clearly to the set crew. I learned how much I need to work on getting my point and directions across clearly.