

Write a 2-3 page paper on your experience shooting your scene. What went great, what went terribly, and what did you learn? What will you do differently next time?

I started by building my crew. A friend and I had been working on certain areas of pre-production prior to creating a shoot date, luckily we were able to choose a scene that had been more thoroughly developed. I have a good bit of gear when it comes to lights, stands and microphones. My friend Teejay had the camera department covered so he was set as my DP.

Teejay and I had our locations set, our two actors set and one gaffer. Our shoot was going to be six hours long starting at 8pm. This was due to how popular the location typically is, we were going to be using an elevator and vending machine within the same building.

Everything started out smoothly, we had all of our props and gear organized. The whole crew met on time so Teejay and I could go through what we were going to be shooting for the night, where and for how long. Everyone seemed excited. We packed everything into our cars and headed out for the night.

The one issue about our location is that it was on a campus, so anywhere we parked we had to walk everything in one go. Again we were also using this location in a very guerrilla way. No permits, no pay and we didn't know anyone really to 'A-okay' our use of the location. So of course as soon as we arrive to the parking lot and gather our gear a police officer pulls up. Luckily for us he was really nice and just wanted to know what area we'd be in to make sure we weren't causing a disturbance.

Feeling all lucky we were off the the Clark building to set up and get our shots done. As soon as we walked up to the front doors of the building it was locked. This is actually uncommon, we decided to search around the Clark building and every other building connecting to it. After 15 doors we came to the final one, with desperation we tried the door and it opened up. A basement level door in a totally different building with a connecting skyway. We had lost about an hour and a halves worth of time but we made it into the building.

Once we were able to locate our location through the buildings we began to set up a how each shot was going to take place and how we were going to light everything. I talked with my actors giving them things to work with while we finalized everything. The first part of the scene begins in an elevator, so we were working in a really tight area.

Everything was going smoothly with the performance from my two actors. A run in that I encountered was based around our comedy bit. One of my characters eats peanuts from another's hand in a kind of outrageous way. This along with other little bits within the interaction made it harder for my talent and sometimes the crew to stay serious. Although after about eight takes, everyone began to realize how long everything would take if we spent a lot of time on one shot.

Once we hit our stride, the rest of the shoot was easy. It did take a full six hours with a an hour and a half delay but we were able to complete everything. We ended up walking out of our location around four in the morning.

The shoot in my opinion was a success, everyone walked away feeling really good and proud.