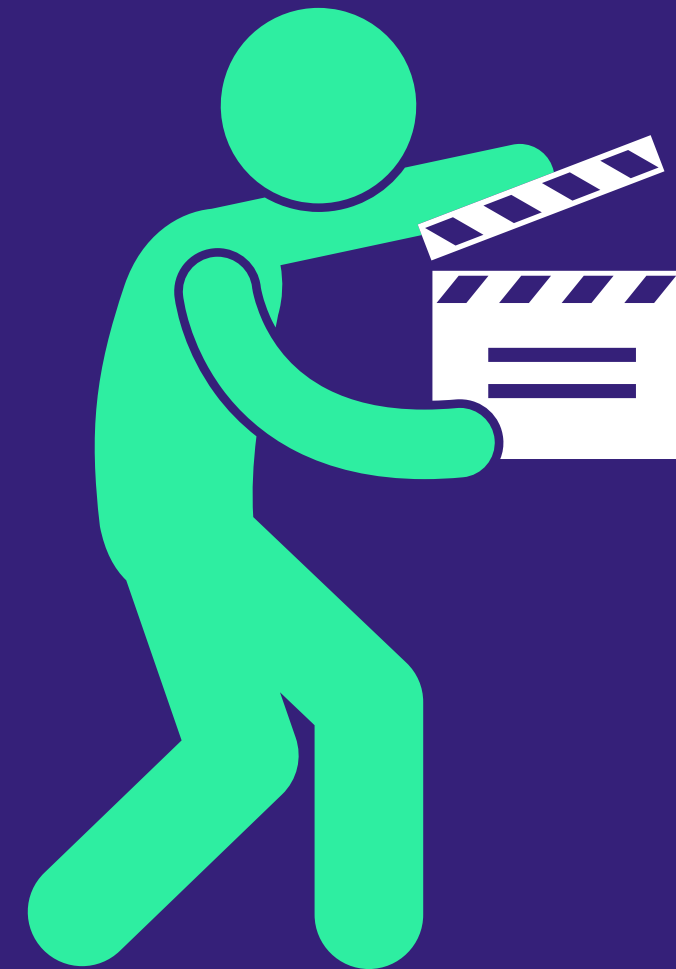


Smartphone Filmmaking

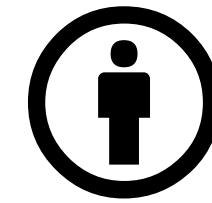
Narrative Films



Using These Slides

The slides are available for you to download, reference, translate, and reuse.

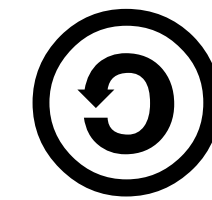
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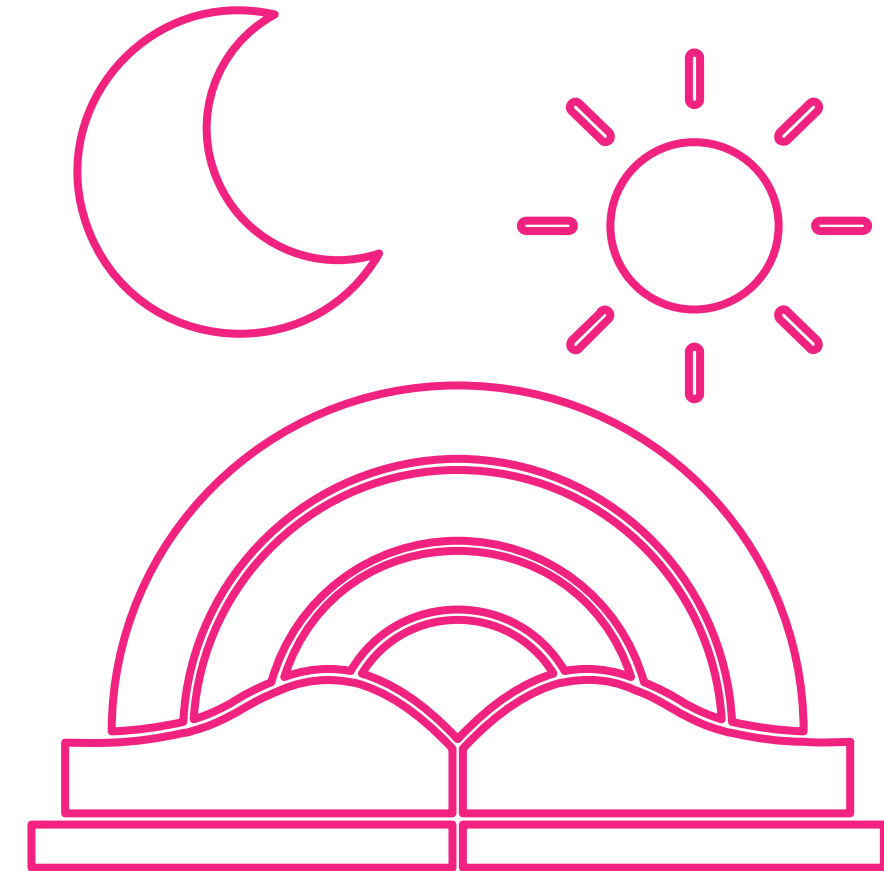


Narrative Film Story Structure

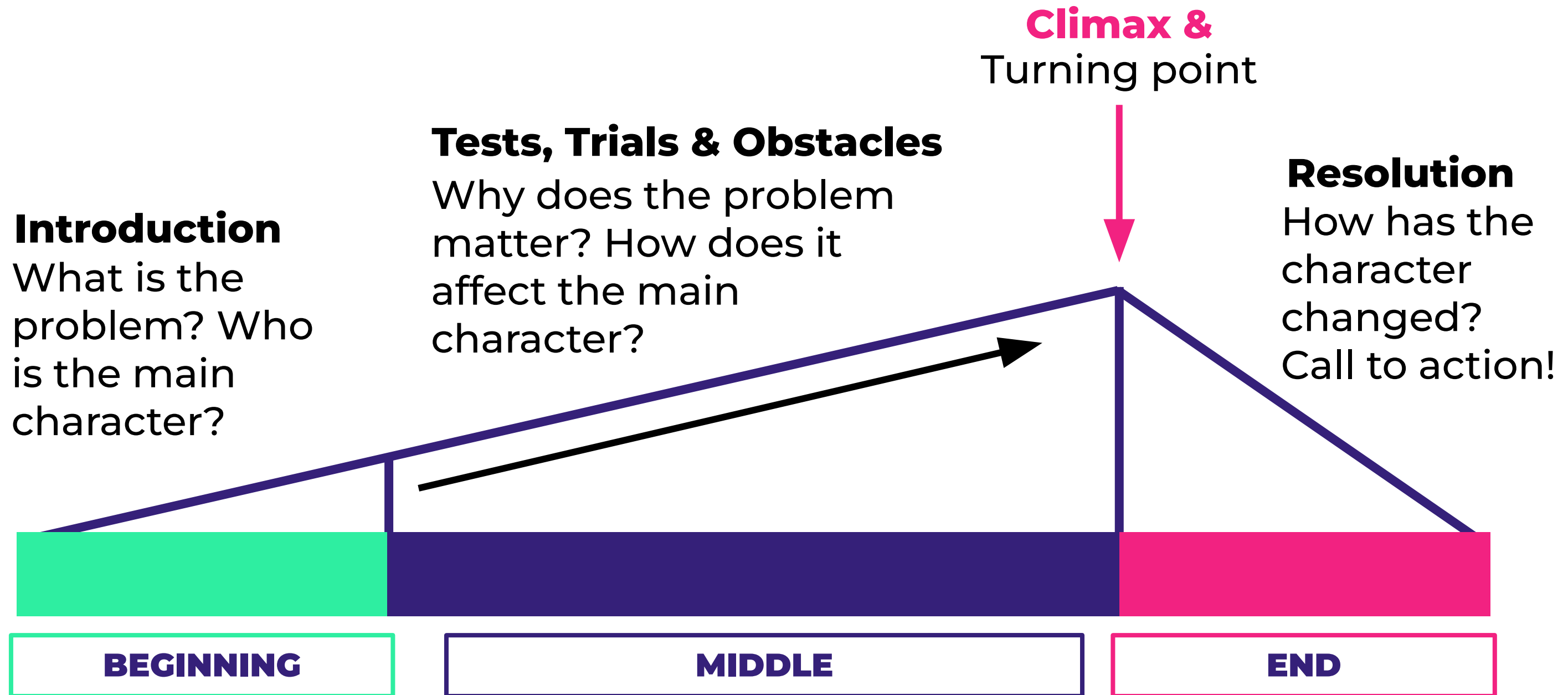


Story Structure

Every story has a beginning, middle and end.



Story Structure



Watch

Walk with Me

This film deals with the subject of worship. It's based on John 4:17-24 and Jesus' conversation with the woman at the well. It can be used to start discussions or for discipleship.



FILE | Walk With Me.mp4

Who is the main character? What is the problem?



Introduction

BEGINNING

Why does the problem matter? How does it affect the main character?



Tests, Trials & Obstacles

MIDDLE

Our character faces his largest obstacle!



CLIMAX
Turning Point

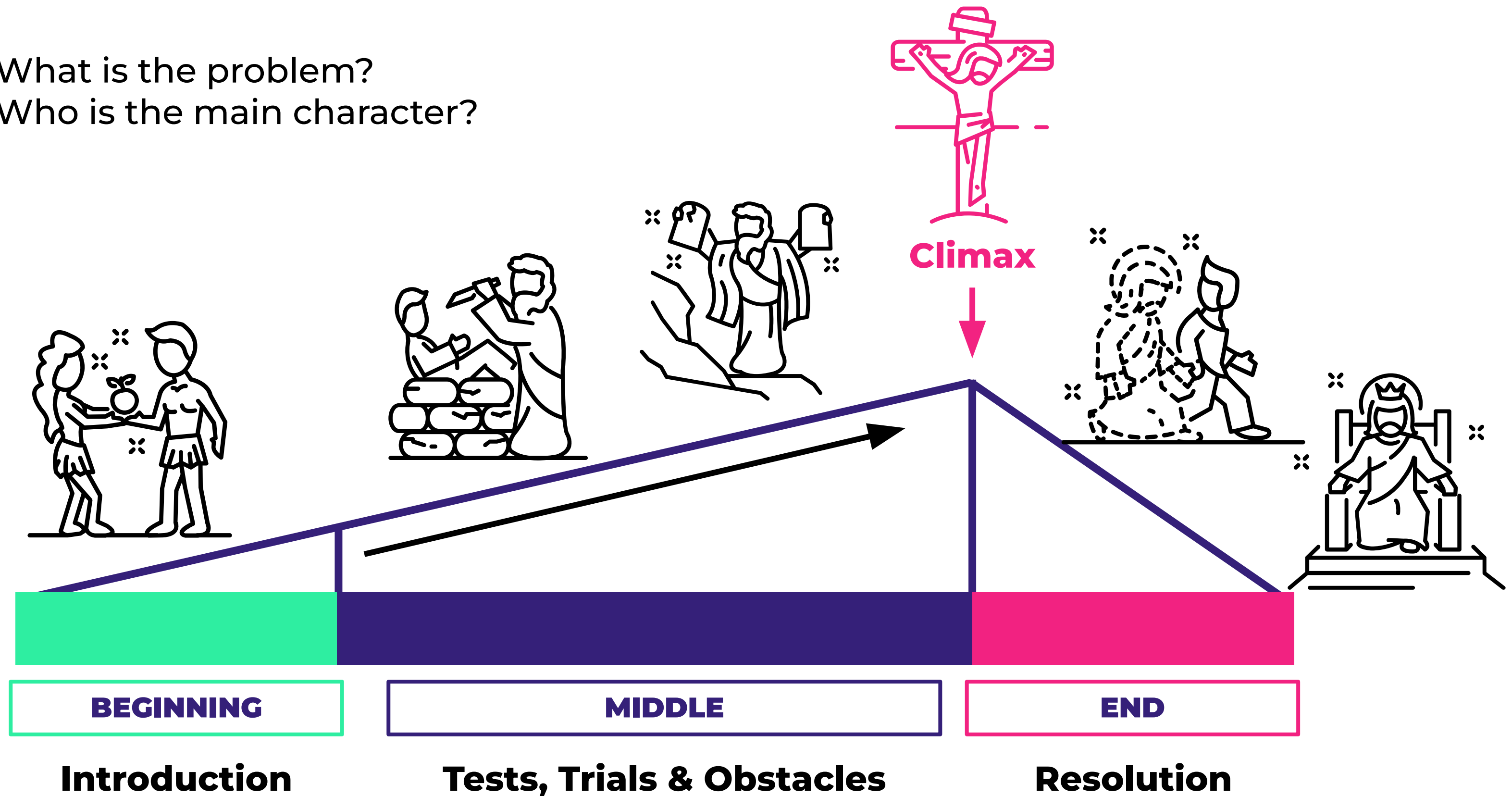
How has the character changed? Call to action!



Resolution

END

What is the problem?
Who is the main character?



Watch

Alcohol in Thailand

This film depicts the way alcohol ruins family relationships. It addresses a social issue in Thailand to start a discussion about addiction and relationships.



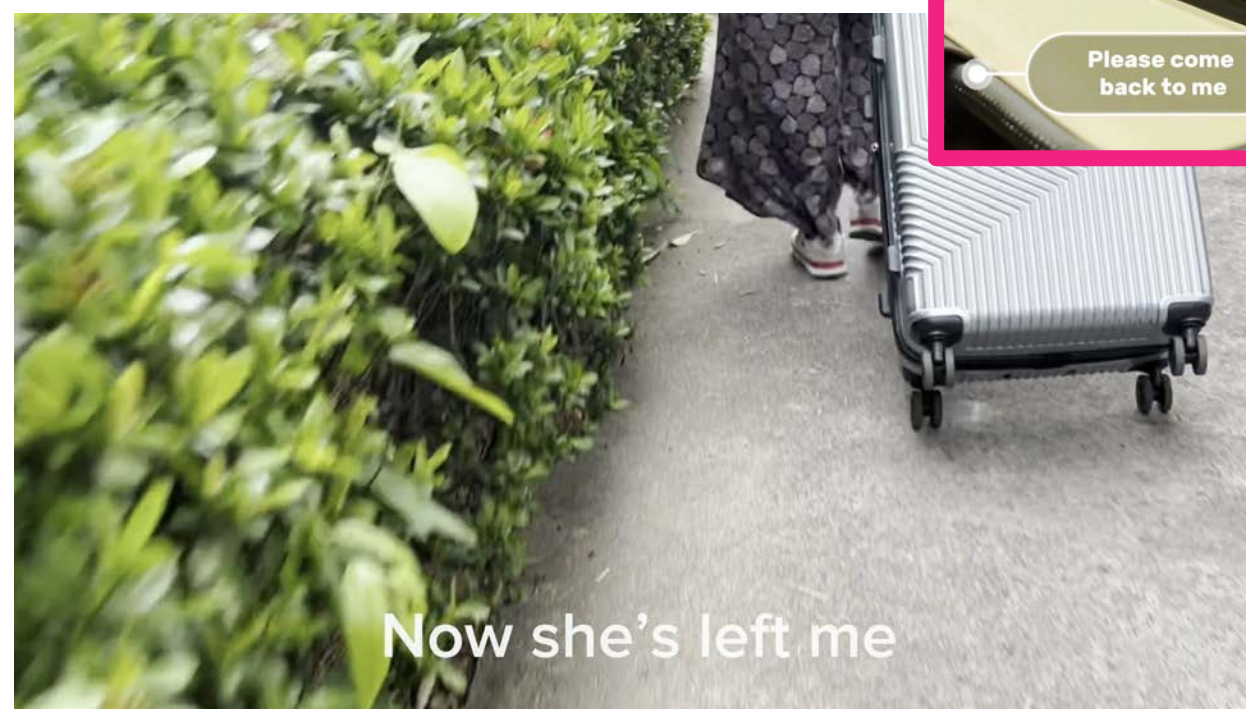
FILE | Alcohol In Thailand.mp4

What is the problem?
Who is the main character?



BEGINNING

Introduction



MIDDLE

Tests, Trials & Obstacles

Climax




END

Resolution



Video is **visual**, so your stories should be visually driven.

You don't always need to show faces!

A blurred video frame showing a person's face, likely a woman, with text overlaid. The text is in Thai and English, asking "What's destroying your relationships?".

มีอะไรบ้างที่ทำลายความสัมพันธ์กับคนที่คุณรัก
What's destroying your relationships?

A good **call to action** can generate discussion.

Do not answer everything in the video.

Watch

A True Friend

This film deals with loneliness in Myanmar. It is used for starting online discussions about Jesus who is our true friend.



FILE | A True Friend.mp4

ညဘက်တွေ
အိပ်မပျော်
ဘူးလား?

Can't sleep at night?



Use text and graphics to **enhance** the story.



Use **symbols** or fiction in your story to depict an internal crisis.

Watch

The Way Out

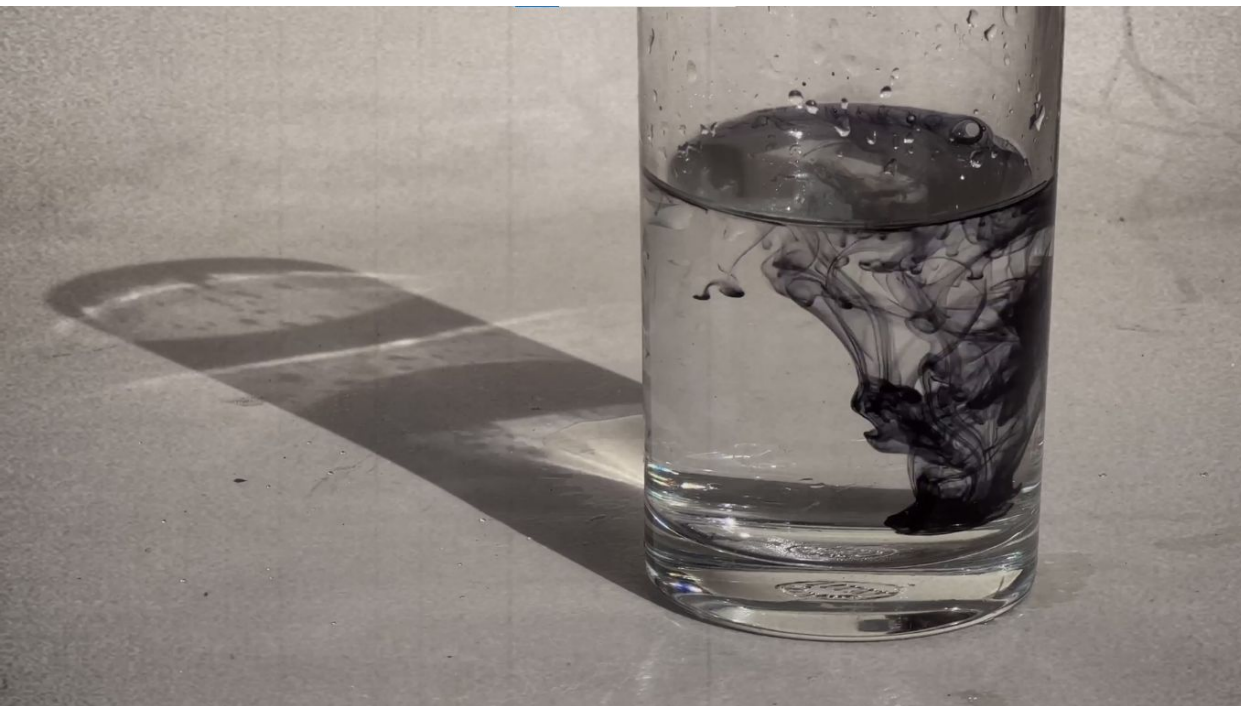
This film dramatizes a testimony from Thailand.



FILE | The Way Out.mp4

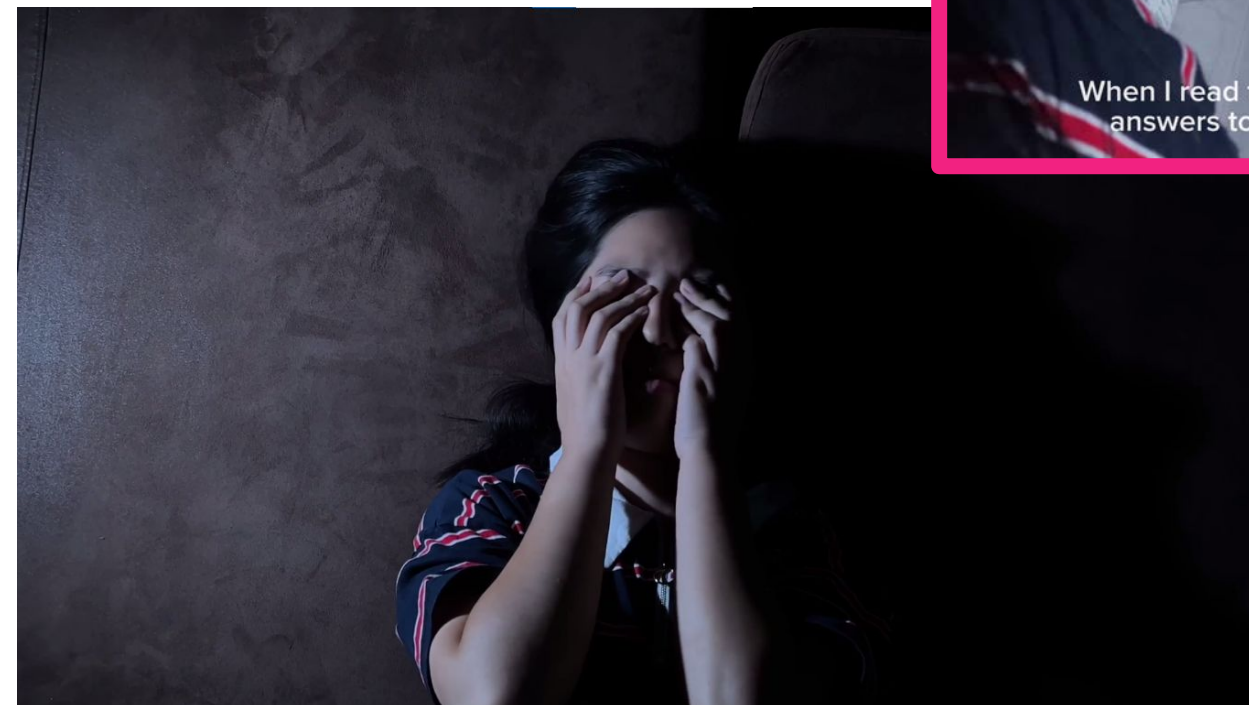
What is the problem?
Who is the main character?

Climax



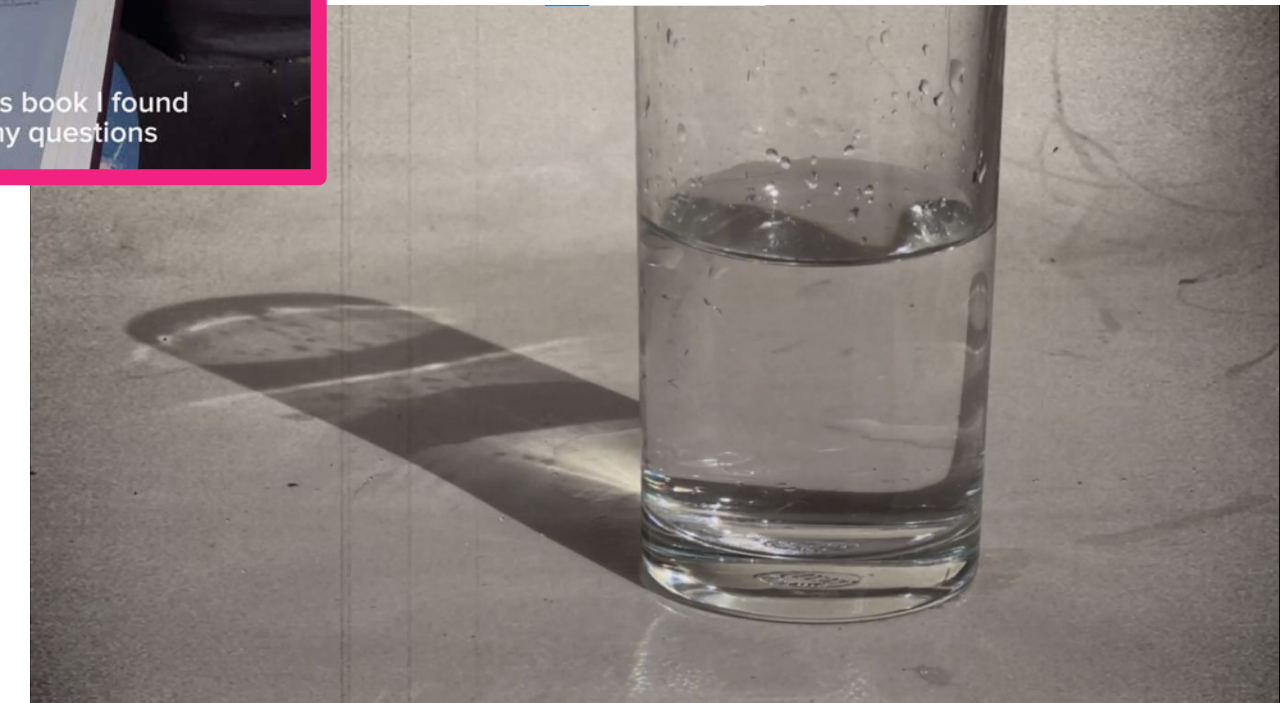
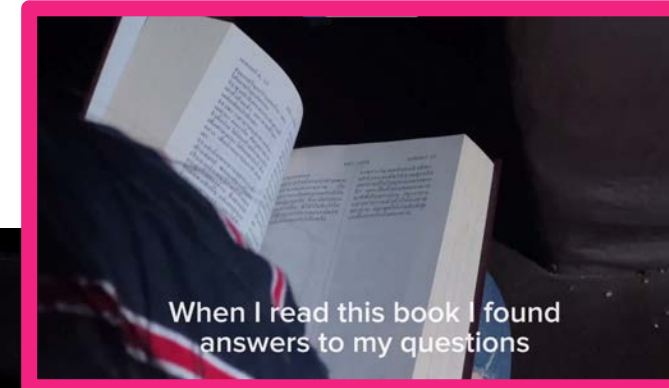
BEGINNING

Introduction



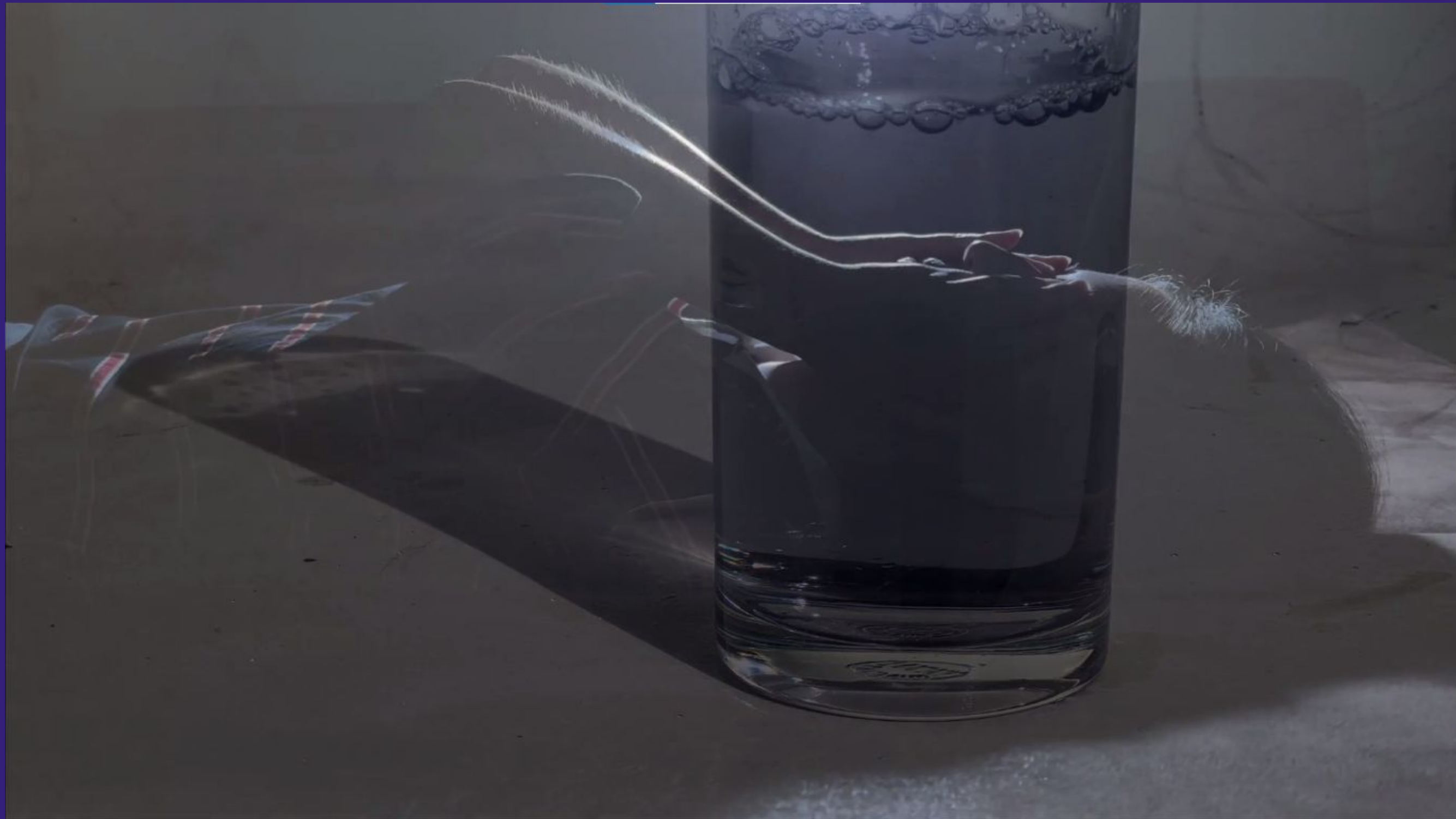
MIDDLE

Tests, Trials & Obstacles



END

Resolution



True stories are **relatable** to your audience.

For security concerns use someone else's voice and don't show faces.

From Testimony to Story

 Listen to the person's testimony. (voice record if it's helpful)

 What parts of the testimony can be represented visually?

 How does the testimony relate to the needs or struggles of your audience?

 Write a short 30 second voice over based on the testimony that has a beginning, middle and end.



Pitch Your Story

Group Activity



Pitch Your Story

Activity

In your team come up with **two** short narrative film concepts that address an issue, need, or topic relevant to your audience. Write a simple “pitch” for each idea. After you are finished writing your pitch have someone tell each idea to an instructor or another group.

Refer to your notes from the Define Your Audience Activity. If you are working as an individual tell the story idea to someone you know and ask for feedback.





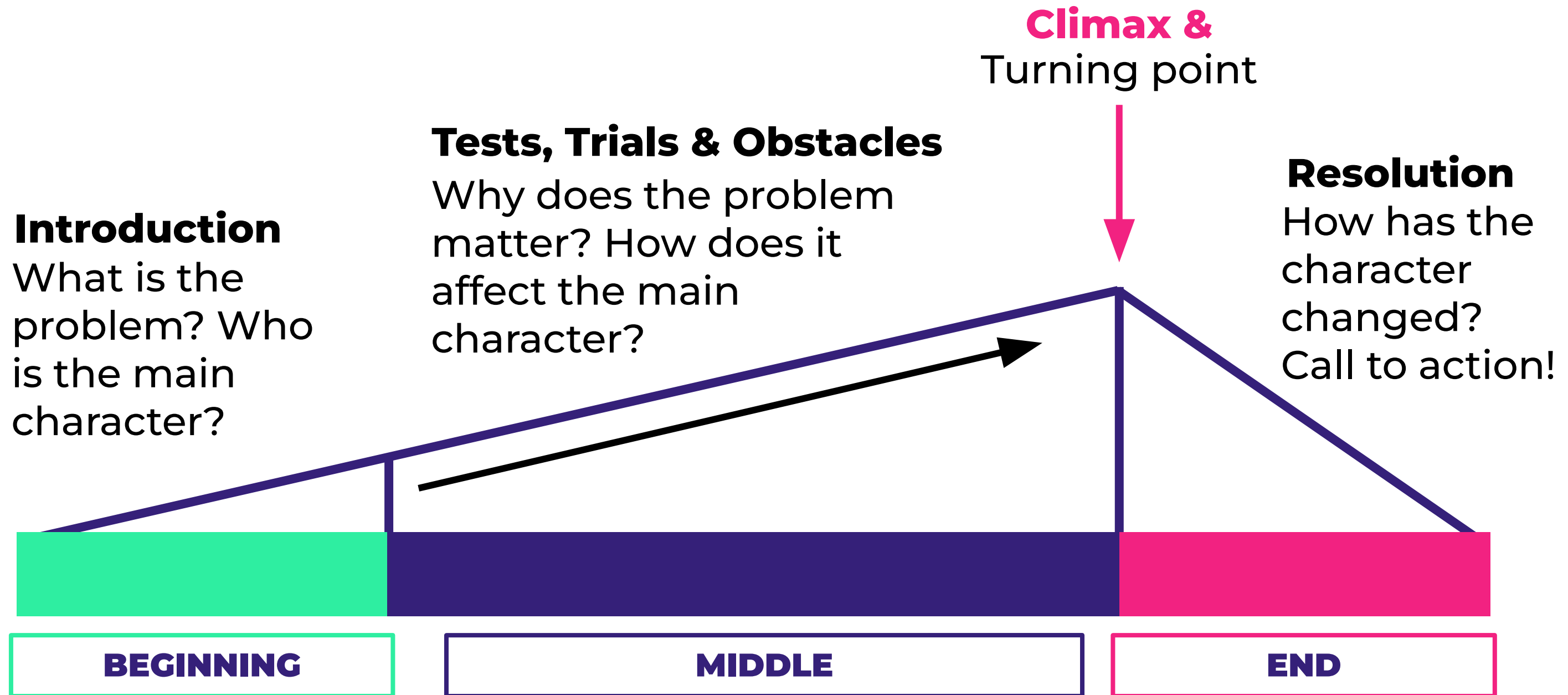
Pitch Your Story

Guidelines

1. Your ideas must have a beginning, middle, climax, and end.
2. It must feature a voice over even if you choose to base your film on a testimony.
3. Aim to create a 1 to 1.5 minute video.



Story Structure



Walk With Me

Example Pitch



Idea: A video that addresses false worship for young people in Cameroon and emphasizes a relationship with Jesus.

Beginning: Someone is trying hard to worship God, but a voice says, “not here.”

Middle: The person keeps trying different positions, but the voice keeps telling them, “not here.”

Climax: Frustrated the person shouts at God.

End: The voice says, “walk with me.”



The Way Out

Example Pitch



Idea: A video that emphasizes the hopelessness of sin and God's power over sin for Thai young people.

Beginning: A girl tells a story from a monk about how sin is like ink in the water.

Middle: More water is added, but it doesn't remove the ink. The girl feels hopeless and lost.

Climax: The girl tells how she started reading the Bible and everything changed.






End: We invite the audience to read the Bible.



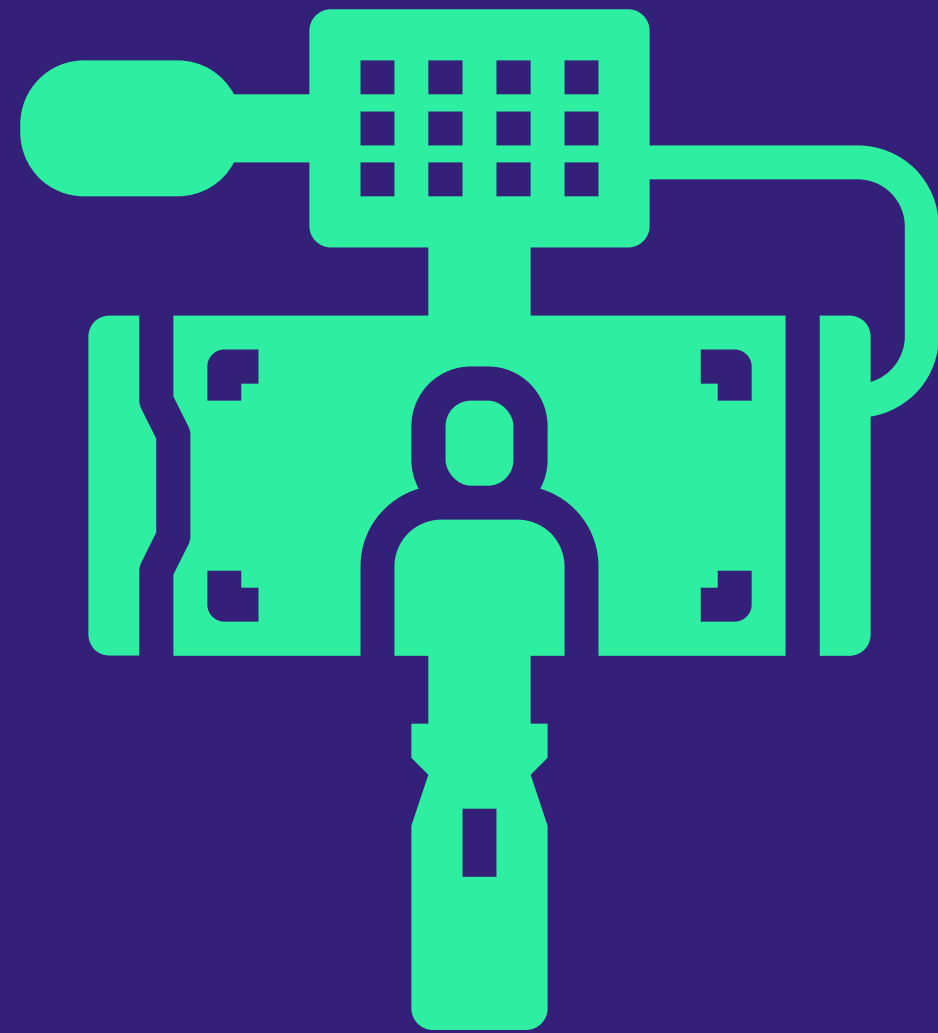


Pitch Your Story

Our Advice

-  Pray together before you begin for the Holy Spirit's guidance.
-  Make the story as simple as possible.
-  Consider what resources you have available here to film this video.
(People, Locations, Materials)
-  Try to have only one or two characters.
-  If security is a concern for you think about how you can tell the story without showing someone's face.

Filming Narrative Films



**Shoot your video for
where it will be posted.**

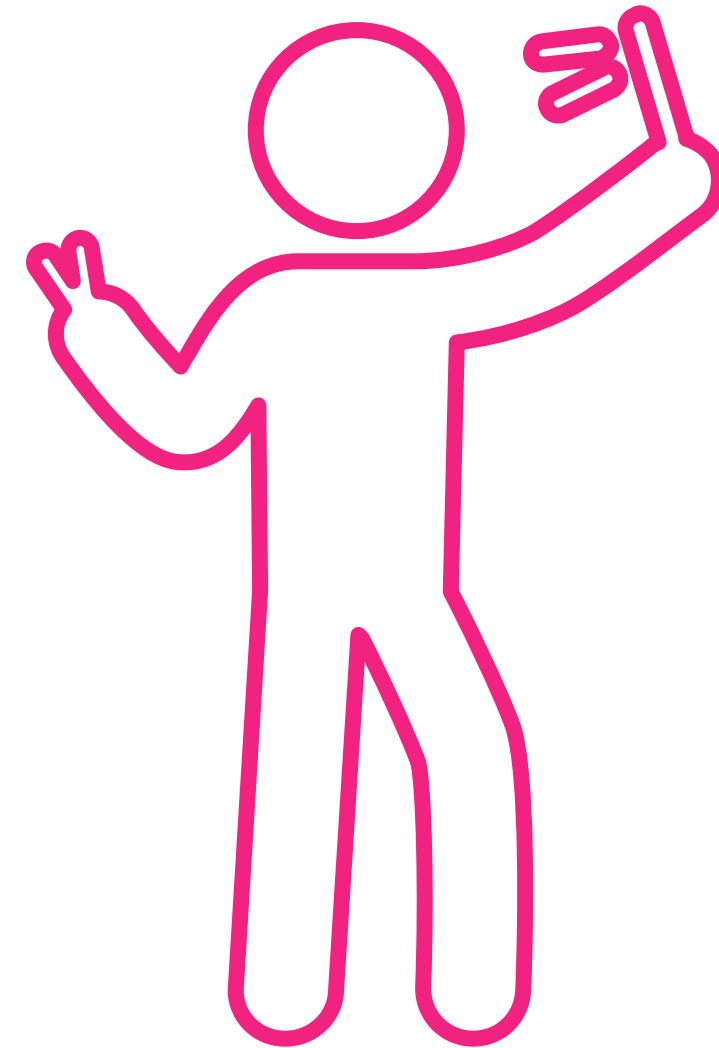


Social media “stories”

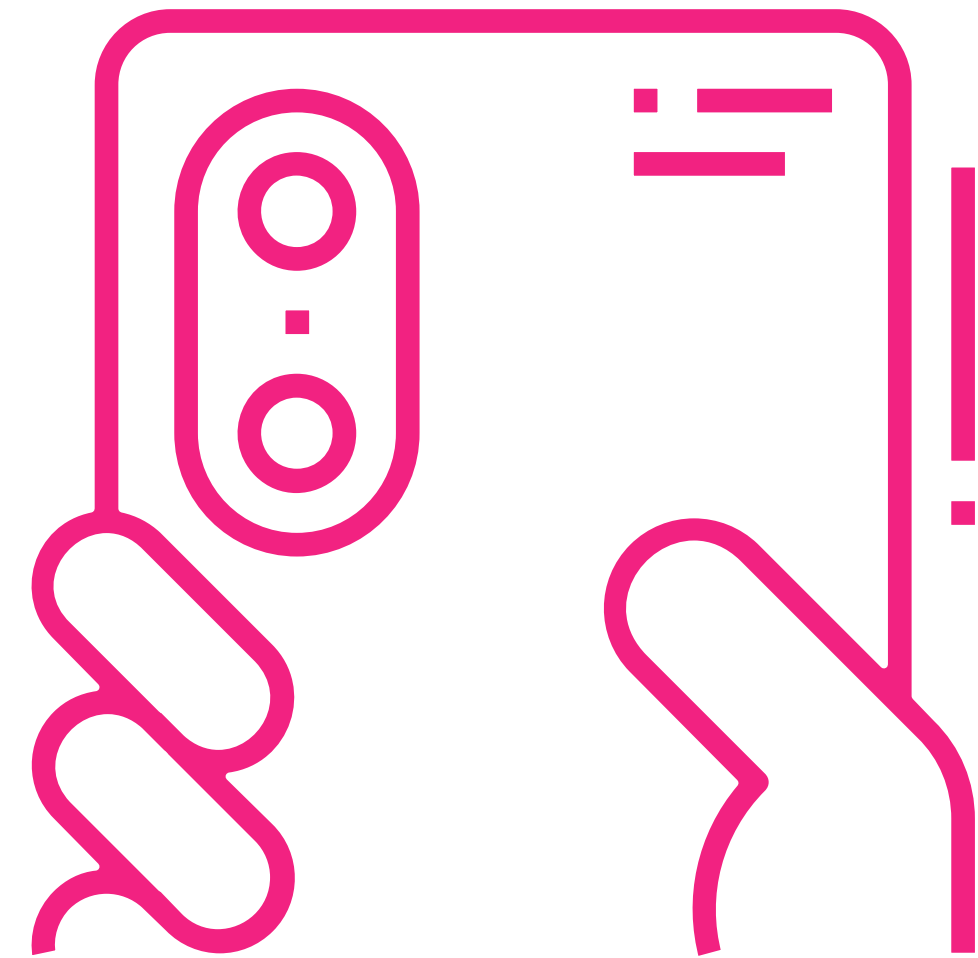


YouTube or as a social media “post”

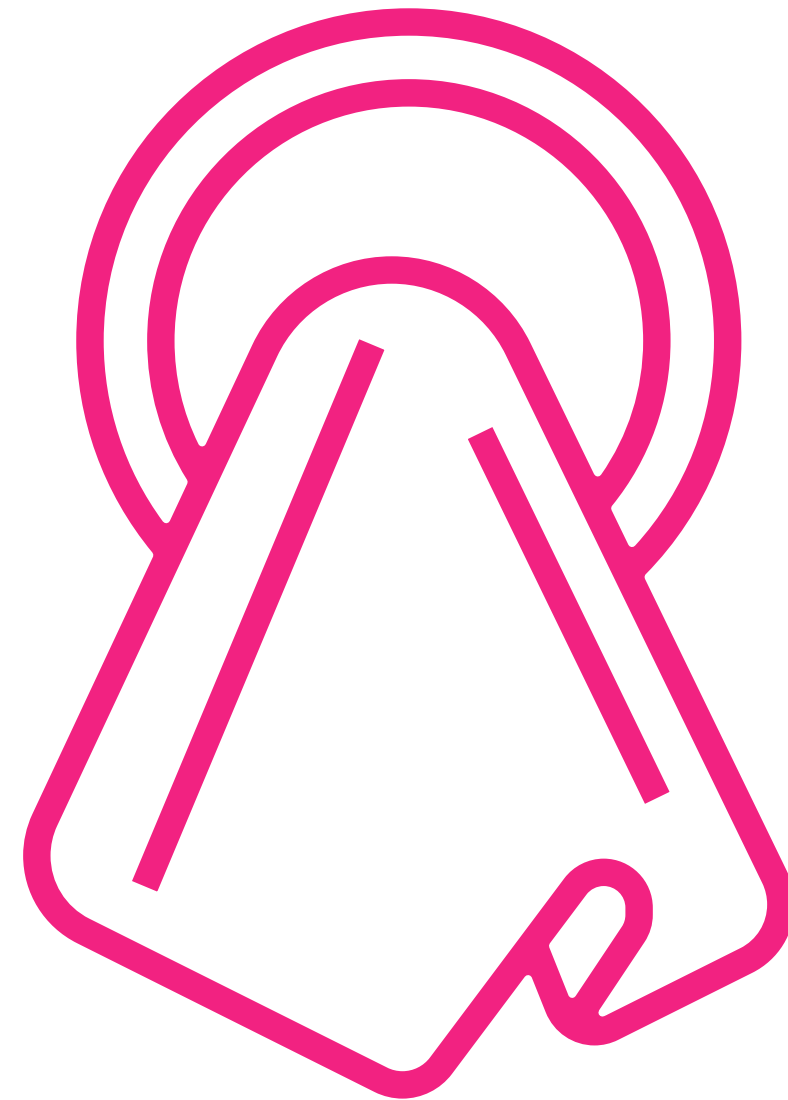
Decide if you are creating a vertical video or horizontal video and film all of your footage the **same direction**.



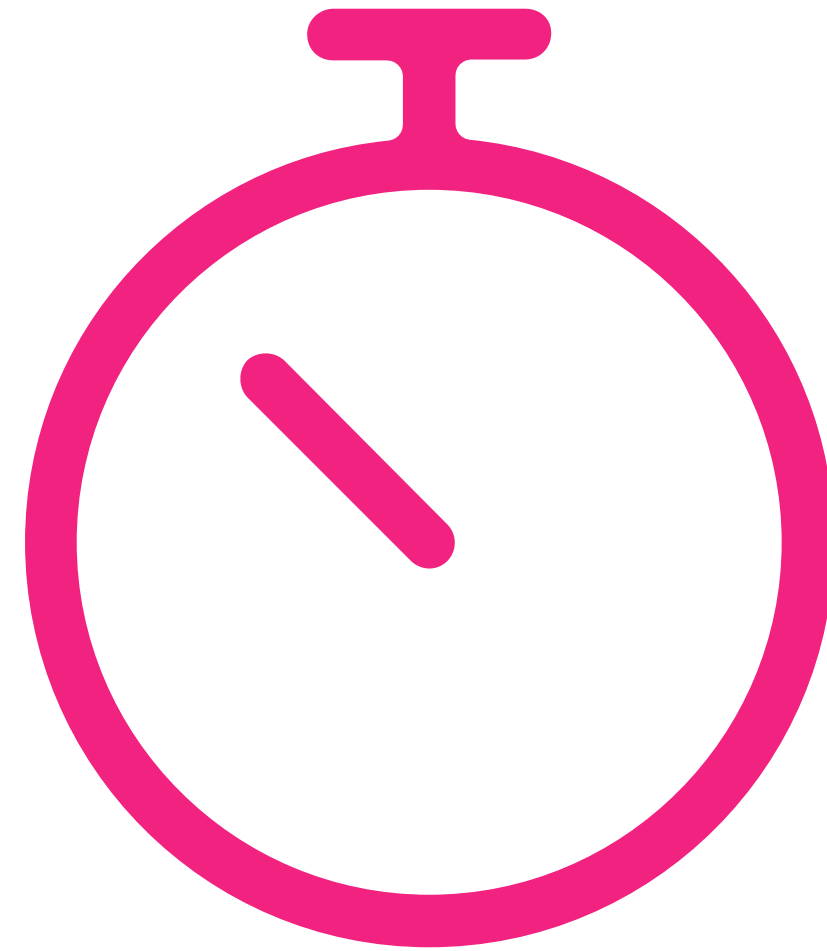
Use the **back**
camera. It's a better
camera.



Clean the camera lens **often** with a cloth or shirt.



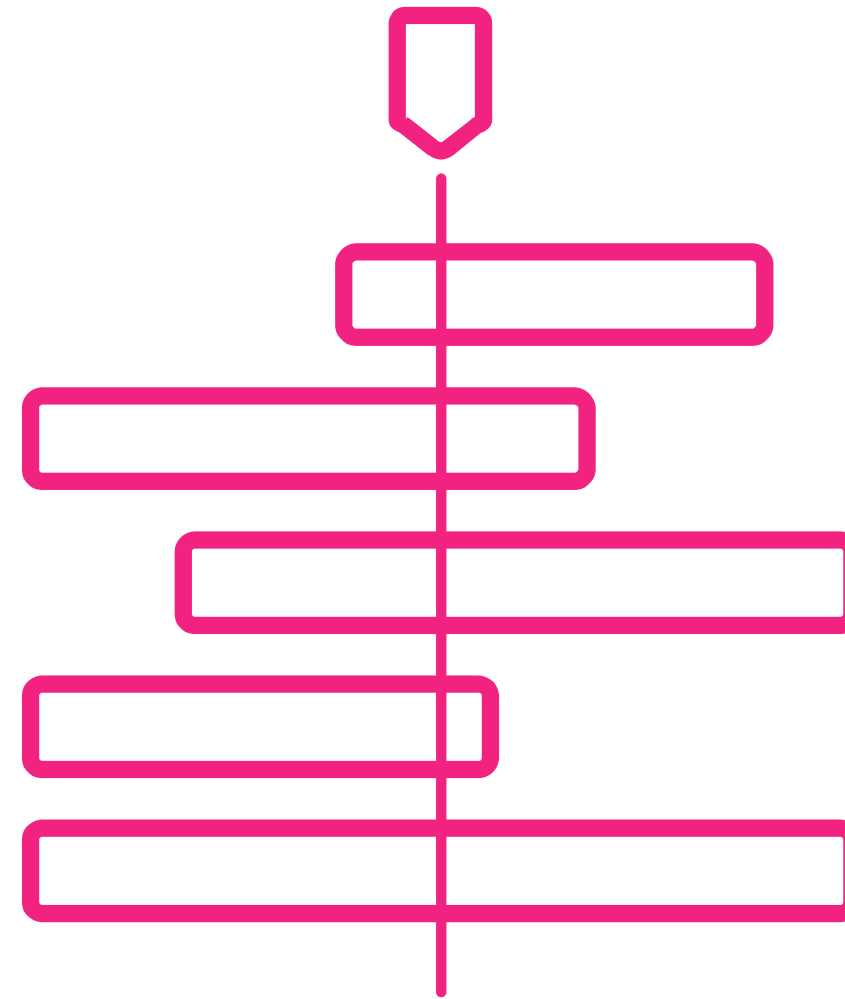
Hold each shot for
at least 10 seconds.



Begin and stop recording for each separate shot.
Do not combine two shots together.



You'll put the
shots **together**
when editing.



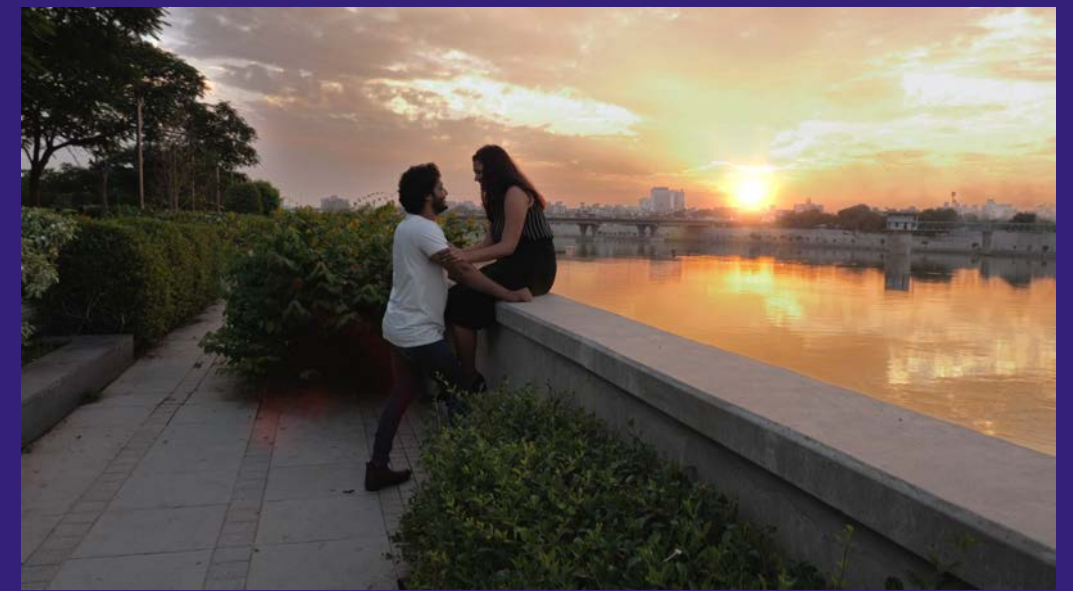
Shot Types



Close Up
Emotion



Medium Shot
Action



Wide Shot
Location



Close Up - Emotion

Framing: Top of forehead to just below the chin



Medium Shot - Action

Framing: Waist up, some space above head



Wide Shot - Location

Framing: Space above/below subject's head and feet

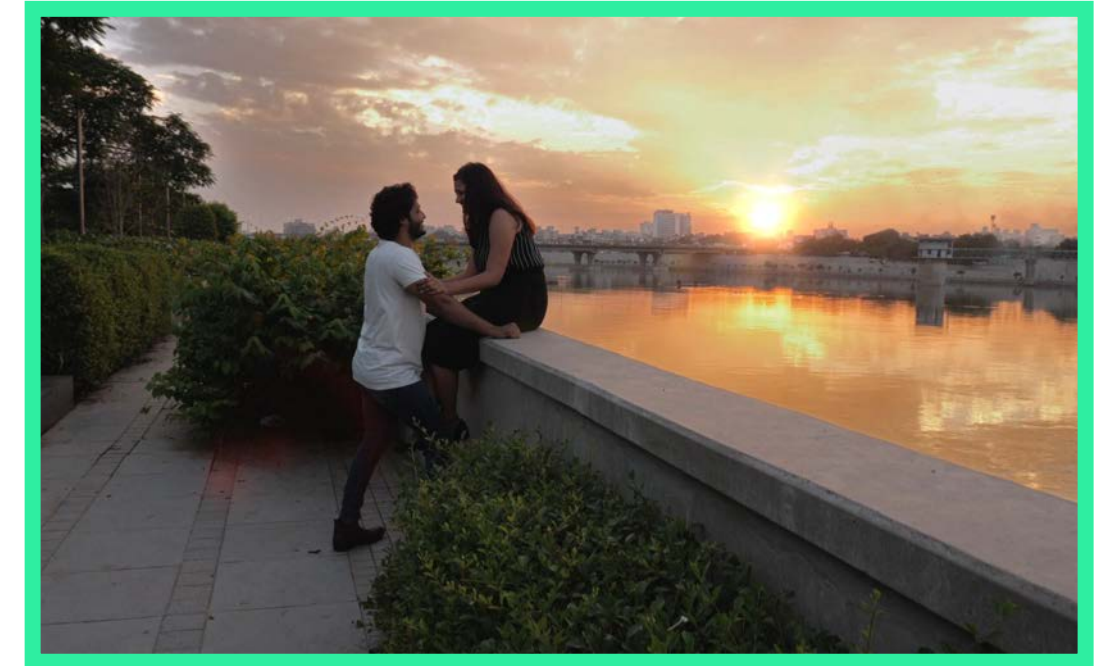
Cut from close, medium & wide shots of the **same** action.



Close Up



Medium Shot



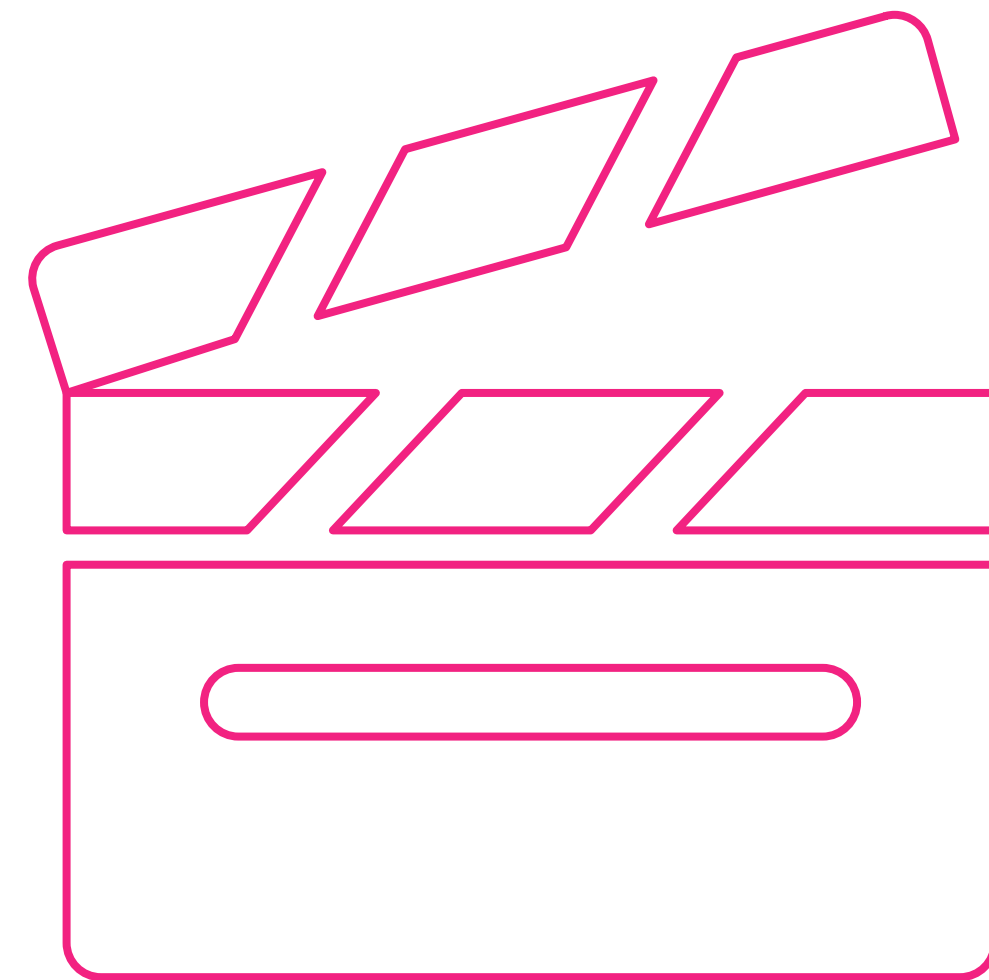
Wide Shot

LIVE
DEMO



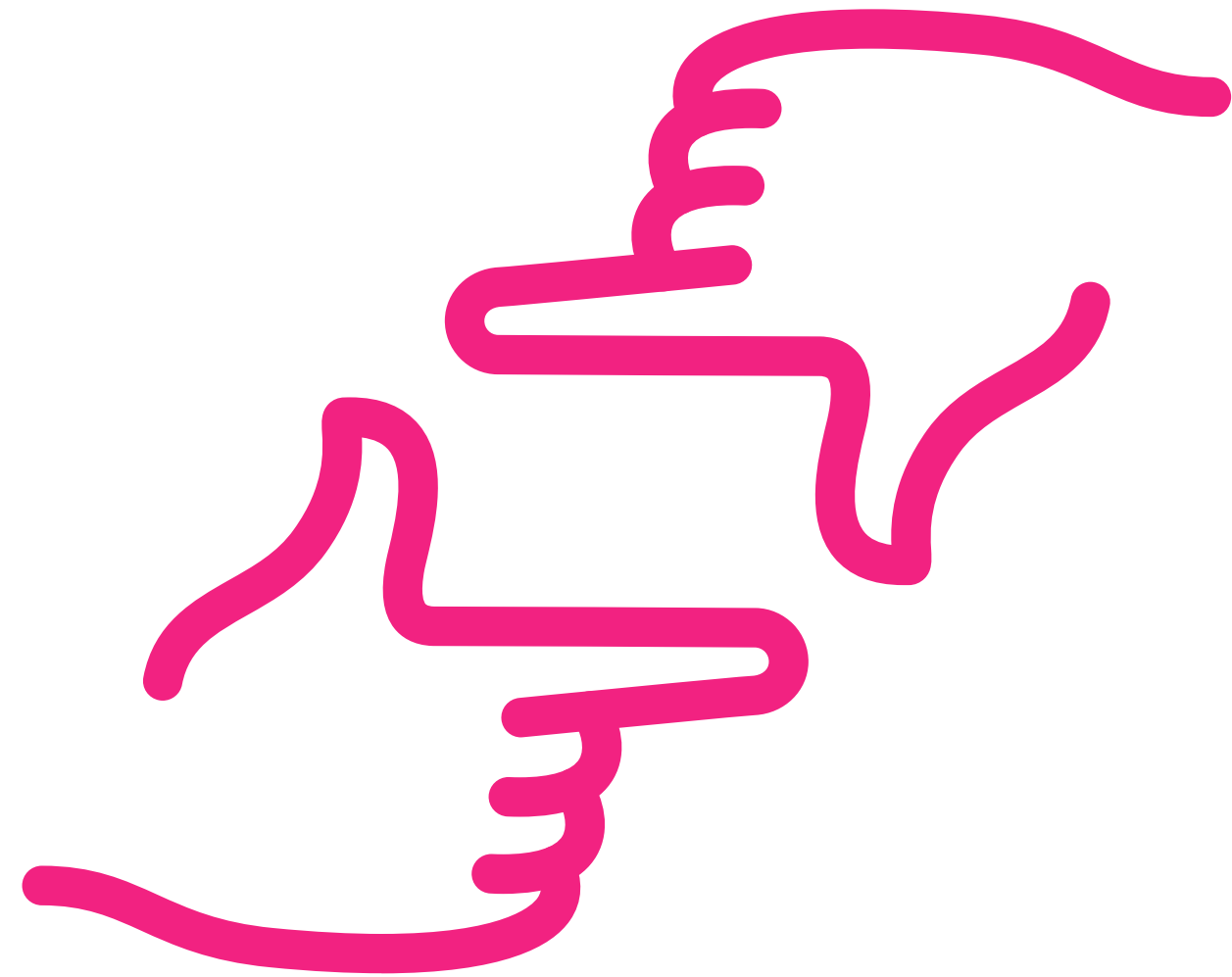
Have an actor **repeat**
the same action
several times until
they get it right.

Choose the best **take**
when editing.



Composition

How we **arrange** people or objects within our shot.





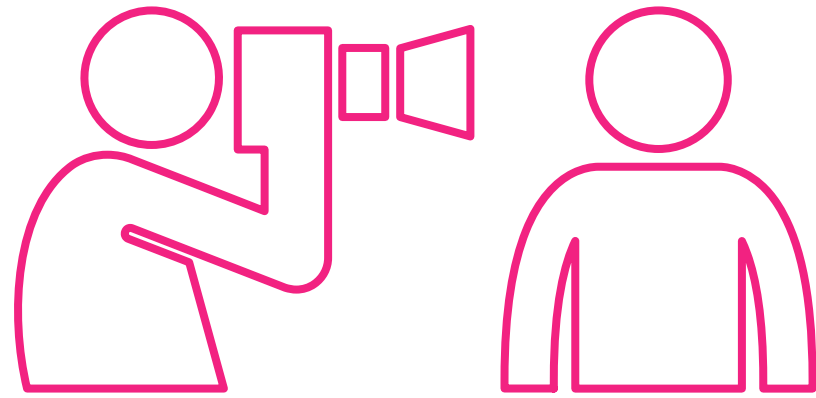
Every shot in your video should have a clear **subject**.



Avoid filming the back or side of heads.
Your audience wants to see **both eyes**.

Angles





Eye Level

The camera is at the same height as the subject's eyes.



Emotions: calm, normal, safe

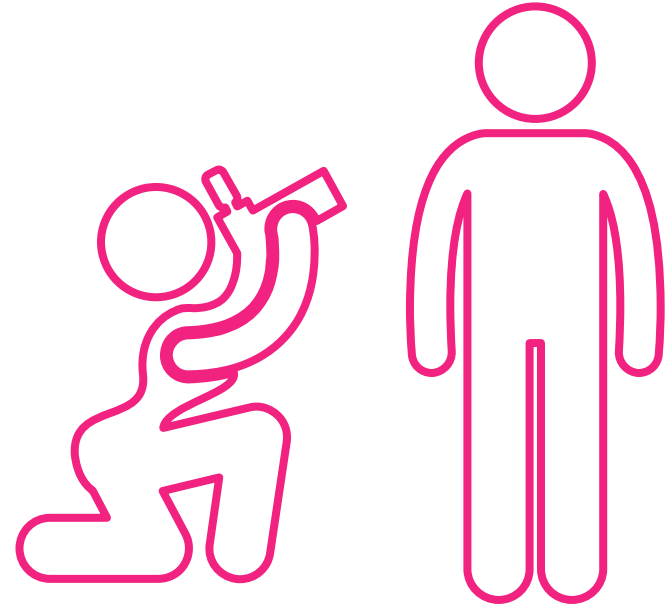


High Angle

The camera is above the subject filming down.



Emotions: innocent, vulnerable, weak



Low Angle

The camera is below the subject filming up.



Emotions: powerful, anger, control

Working Together



High Angle



Low Angle

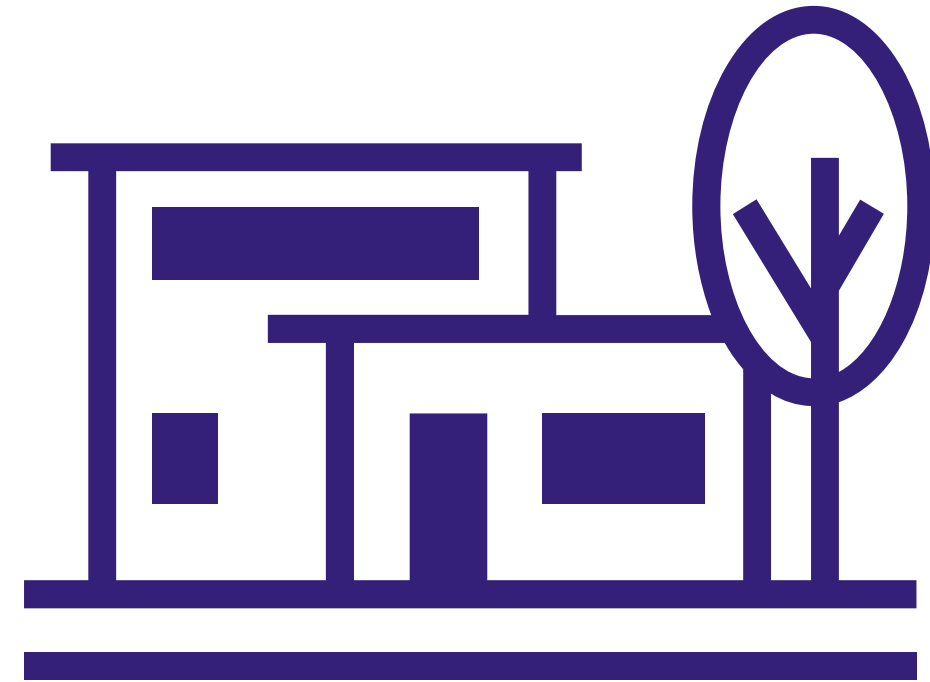
Camera Movement



Have a **reason** to move the camera.



Action



Building



Unmotivated Camera Movement

Why is this camera moving?

Camera movements
reveal something or
follow action.





Motivated Camera Movement

Revealing the actor then **following** his action.

Lighting





Make sure to have **consistent** lighting on your subject and the background.

Find a background that has similar lighting to your subject.





If you film in the **shade** make sure the background is also in the shade.

Adjust the lighting to best see the subject's **face**.





Use **Exposure lock** on your phone to expose for someone's face.

Recording Your Voice Over



Audio is Essential

You can watch a video with bad camera work, but you can't watch a video with bad audio!



Recording Audio for CapCut

Record your voice over
as a **video** to make it
easier to work with in
CapCut.

*We will remove the video and only keep
the audio when editing.*



TOO
CLOSE



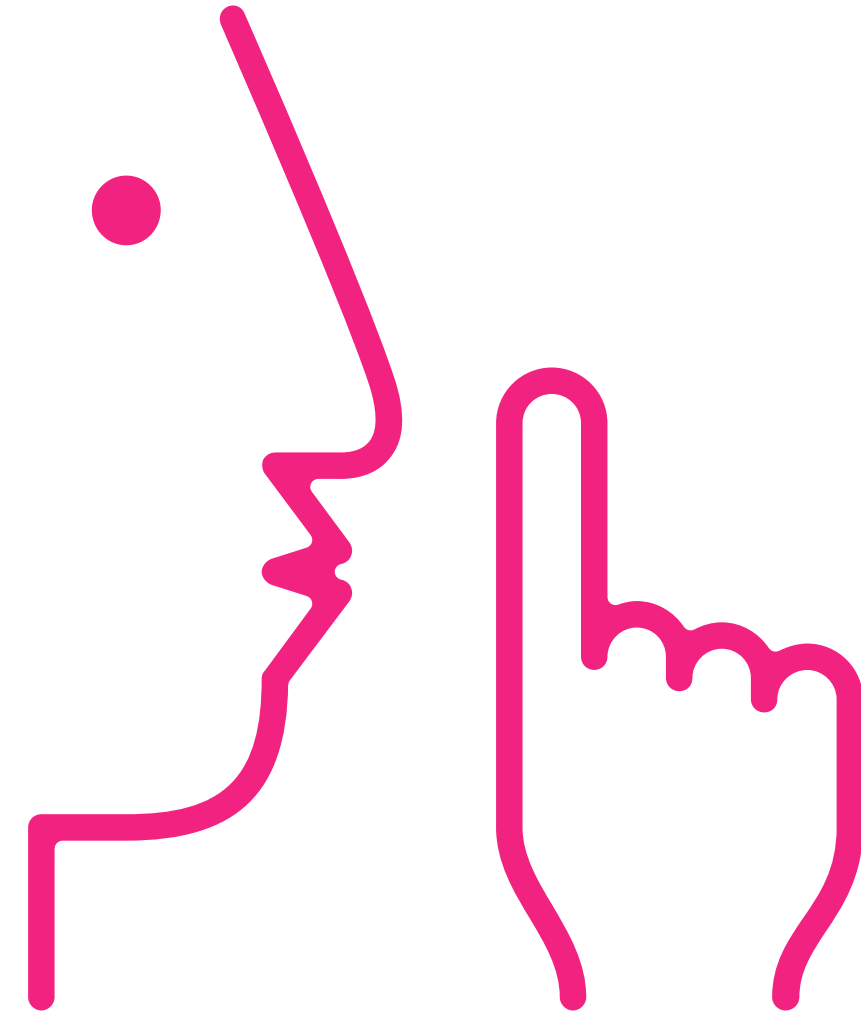
TOO
FAR



For best audio quality hold the phone like you're sending a video message.






Quiet on Set!

Remind your team
to be quite before
recording.



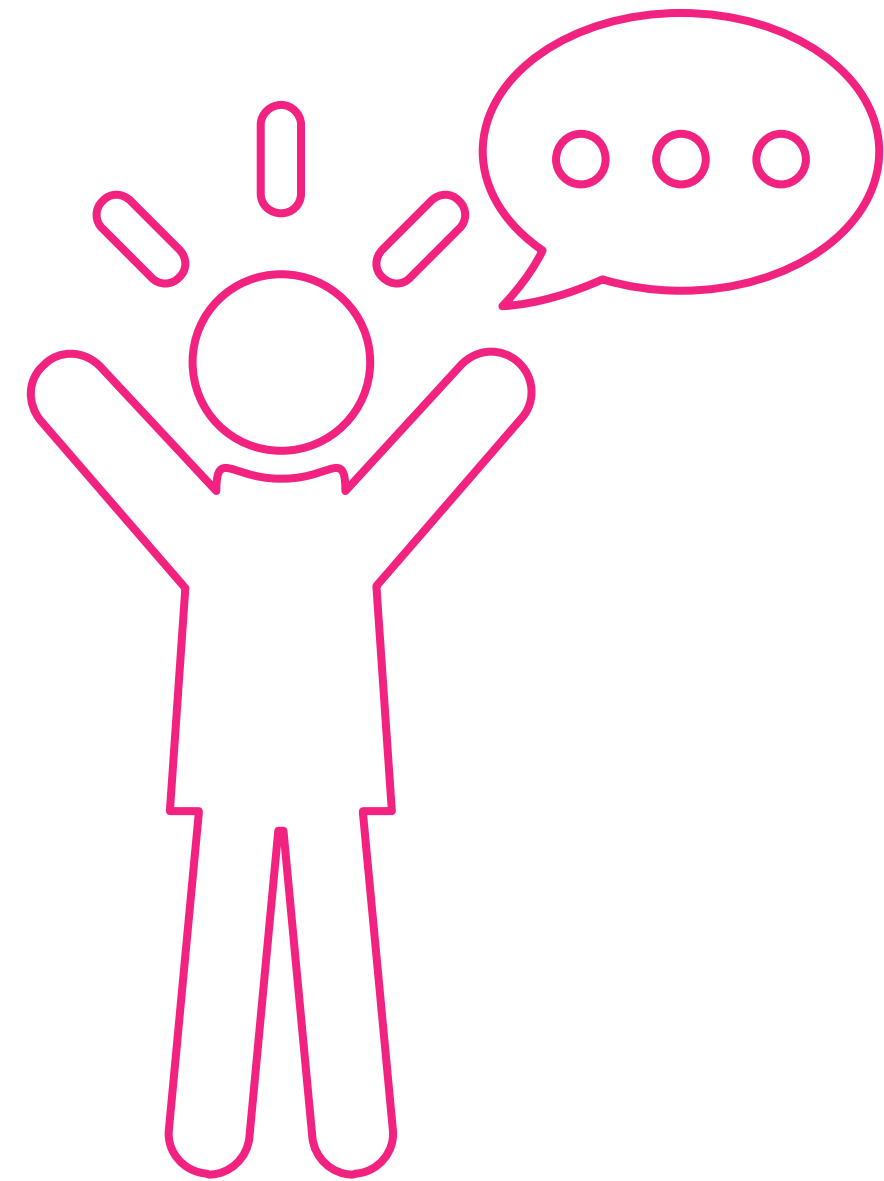
Find a **quiet** place to record.

Avoid

-  Busy streets
-  Places where people are talking
-  Music playing
-  A room with a loud fan or machine
-  Large rooms with lots of echo



Make sure the subject
is speaking at a
normal volume level.



Listen back to make
sure that the audio is
good before moving on.





Make Your Narrative Film

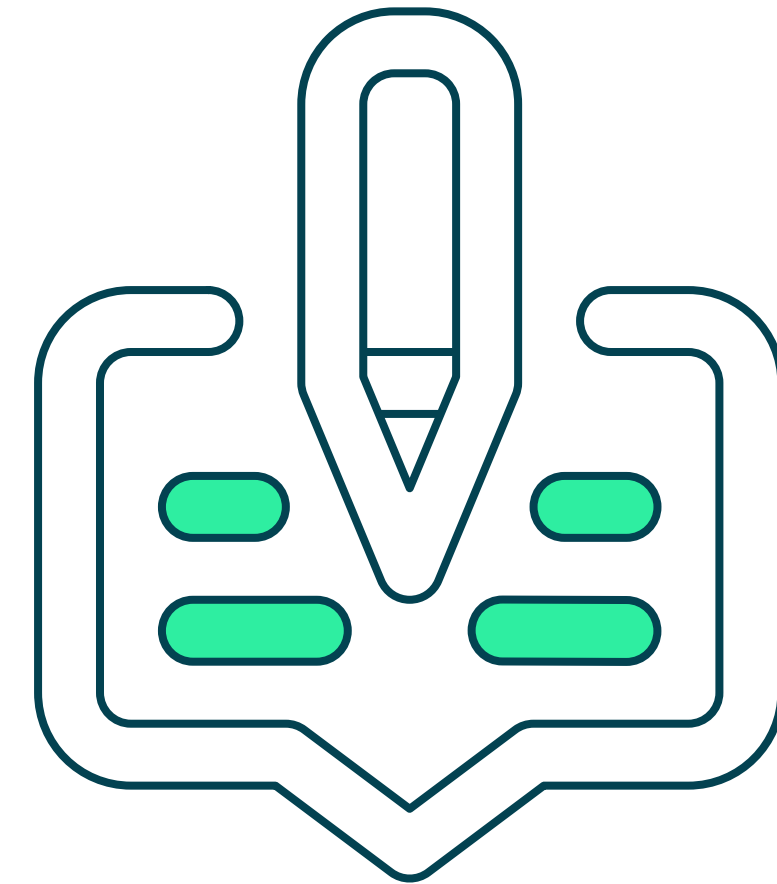
Group Activity



PART 1

Write Your Voice Over

Since the film you will be making is driven by a voice over narration we suggest that you **write** your voice over **before** you begin filming. It will give you a good framework for your story and what footage you need to film. However, we recommend that you **record** your voice over **after** you finish filming. During the filming process, you may want to make some changes to your voice over.





PART 2


Make Your Film

 Finish your voice over script.

 Discuss with your team what shots you'd like to have in your video. (Make sure they are shots you can film with the resources you have available.)

 Go out and film your shots!

 Record your voice over. (Remember to record it as a video message.)

 Transfer the footage to your teammates. (Use SHAREit. We want everyone to edit their own version of the video!)

 Edit your final film on CapCut!



Make Your Film

Our Advice

 Keep it simple!

 Choose one phone from your group to be the primary camera.
(This will make it easier to transfer your footage later)

 Decide who will be the actors and who will be behind the camera.
(Give different people a chance to try these roles.)

 Think about any special items or locations you need and send someone to find them.

 Have fun!