

## Assignment - The Interview

Here the students will interview 12 people and start to cut together a full length documentary. Kidding? Yes.

There are lots of skills needed to shape a great interview. There are also different skills to shape an interview where you know all you're looking for is a specific sound bite. Technically there are different skills as well that need shaping. There is the balance between content and technical proficiency. So let's scaffold a few assignments below.

### 1. The Interview - technical focus

Medium to close shot of subject. Looks across the lens to the reporter who sits directly beside the camera. Framed in one third of frame. Background simple, not cluttered. Lighting acceptable, Sound acceptable. Have students find this type of framing online and then they match what they see.

Subject matter - role play something fun. Role play a celebrity, sports figure, person in the news. Turn down the volume on viewing. Critique the framing and the lighting. Second play - critique the audio levels.

No editing just the interview. 2 minutes max.

### 2. The Interview - content focus (Teacher created questions)

Have students do the same assignment but this time the focus switches to the content. Mainly on how students answer questions.

English teachers - literary subject. IE if you're studying Hamlet then make up 10 open ended questions that the character answers. Whatever novel you're studying you can choose a character who answers the questions. I think it's important to model this with a teacher's questions before letting the students go ahead and make their own open ended questions. Socials teachers - historical figure role play.

### Take 2 on this assignment.

Choose another topic and then students are in charge of writing the questions.

3. Re-asks - in any of the above assignments you can have students layer in the reporter doing the re-asks.

4. Edit together the re-asks and the interview.

5. The role play interviews can incorporate more than 1 interview. A number of different points of view on the same subject.