

# Get Behind the Lens!



When the camerawork in a movie is done well, you probably don't even notice most of it. But in fact, the way shots are framed—or how the camera is positioned—helps to tell the story, make it understandable, and convey a mood. Let's go over the different kinds of camera angles filmmakers use most often—then you can try it out yourself!

1

## **Extreme long shot**

A faraway view, usually of scenery. This is often used as the establishing shot of a scene, which tells the audience where it's taking place.

2

## **Long shot**

The entire body of a person can be seen

3

## **Medium shot**

The person's body from the torso up can be seen

4

## **Close-up**

A zoom in on a person's face

5

## **Extreme close-up**

A very tight zoom in, such as just on someone's eye

6

## **Bird's-eye view**

A view from very high above, as from a flying bird's perspective

7

## **High angle**

A view from overhead

8

## **Eye level**

An ordinary perspective, as if you were there on the scene, observing in person

9

## **Low angle**

Below eye level, looking up

10

## **Canted**

A tilted view of the scene that suggests imbalance and instability. It may be a visual cue that there's something amiss in the scene, as in a horror flick.

# Camera Angle Match-Up

For each picture, write the number for the matching camera angle.



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- 1 Canted
- 2 Low angle
- 3 Long shot
- 4 Extreme close-up
- 5 Eye level
- 6 Bird's-eye view
- 7 Medium shot
- 8 Extreme long shot
- 9 Close-up
- 10 High angle

Now that you know all about camera frames and angles, are you up for the challenge of doing it yourself? Grab your smartphone or ask a grown-up to borrow a smartphone or video camera. Get a shot from each of the perspectives above.