

Task 1 Pre - Production - Written Analysis of a short film (lighting, mise en scene, narrative structure and camera techniques)

'Trouble Agent' Short Film Analysis

Production Details

- This short film is a spin off from the film 'the brothers Grimsby'.
- Trouble Agent is directed by Jay Samuelz and Arya Lee
- The film stars: Jay Samuelz, Arya Lee, Sacha Baron Cohen and Jocelyn Penerton

Narrative Structure

Beginning

The film begins with two agents called Lee and Samuel confronting their victim. Lee and Samuel realise that they have kidnapped the wrong person. The victim they kidnapped is called 'Nobby'. They realise he is the brother of a character called 'Sebastian Grey'. Nobby tells the agents that he wants to be untied so he can be free to go. The two agents release their mistake and backtrack to what happened during the time they kidnapped Nobby.

During the 2 hour sequence, they see a man called 'Eric Shaw' who is an international criminal that hacked into the US military satellites and has access to nuclear

codes that can destroy 12 countries. They then begin to prepare their plan to kidnap Eric.

However, Eric is knocked out by Nobby and steals his phone. The phone dealer tells Nobby that Lee and Samuel will be assigned to help Nobby in his next mission.

Lee and Samuel make their way through the guards and abduct Nobby.

Middle

Lee and Samuel put Nobby into a car and are chased by other guards. Through the high speed chase sequence they try to kill the guards but it proves to be difficult as they are driving through the city. They finally kill the guards when they stop their car and get away to their hideout as soon as possible.

End

After they backtracked to the time of when they kidnapped Nobby, Eric threatens Lee and Samuel with a gun. Eric criticises the two agents for kidnapping the wrong person and says their phone lead him to their hideout.

Nobby states he doesn't understand what's going on as Eric still continues to threaten the duo. Nobby then

devises a quick plan with Lee and Samuel to knock out Eric.

Nobby tells Eric to look at the phone as it has a picture of him on it. Eric then questions what Nobby and the duo are up to. Nobby persuades Eric to look at the picture on his phone.

In doing this, a short spark knocks Eric out. After Eric is knocked out, Lee and Samuel compliment on how easy their mission was with Nobby stating he can't believe Eric fell for such a simple trick.

Mise en scene

- All of the characters and extras for this short film wear suits. This costume design is used commonly for agents in Action films.
- Guns are present in this short film. These props are common in action films.
- Eric and Nobby's appearance in this short film is important because they are representing British stereotypes which can be seen as being positive or negative.
- The choice of locations for this film are hideouts in a city. These locations are common for action films.
- The following facial expressions present in this short film are: confused, angry, surprised and clueless. These facial expressions are important because it tells

the audience a lot about the character and their personality.

Technical Production:

Camera Techniques

A shot I liked at the beginning for this short film is the out of depth shot of the car's head mirror introducing Eric. This shot is effective because it shows that one of the agents has a quick eye and is easily able to identify who their target is. It shows that the character is quickly prepared for their mission.

For the car chase sequence my favourite camera shot was the tracking shot used when the cars were chasing each other and as the extras tried to shoot down Lee and Samuel. This is my favourite shot because it shows the camera crew are thinking very carefully of how to make this a good chase sequence and it shows the audience that Lee and Samuel are doing their best to get away from the guards as fast as possible.

Towards the end of the film I have two favourite camera shots that I thought were effective. The first shot was an over the shoulder shot of Eric pointing his gun at Lee and Samuel. The second shot is of Lee and Samuel looking at Eric after he knocks himself out and talk about how easy their mission was.

These two shots were my favourite because it makes the audience think how Eric got to Lee and Samuel's hideout and it makes the story progress a little further. And, it shows that despite all the obstacles Lee and Samuel faced they managed to succeed in what they were doing.

Editing

For the editing I thought it flowed very well and did not feel rushed. My favourite edit in this short film was when one of the protagonist pushed the gear box forward as they drive to get away from the guards. This was a jump cut although it was simple it helped create a good opening scene for the car chase sequence.

Lighting

The lighting for this short film mainly uses bright lighting. My favourite part of when the lighting becomes effective in the short film is during Eric's confrontation with Lee, Samuel and Nobby. The lighting works well here because it makes the atmosphere more intense and makes the characters stand out more to the audience.

Pictures from Trailer

- Nobby



- Eric

