Presenting your story

Think of your video as a story. All good stories contain certain elements.

Keep in mind the 5Ws: who, what, when, where and why.

There are two ways of laying out your story: a storyboard or a script.

Storyboard

- The storyboard will give those involved in the production information on the overall mood and feel of the final product.

- It contains info on graphics, video, sound, text, audio interaction, color, type fonts, type size, etc.

- It needs to be detailed enough so each crew member knows what to do and what is happening throughout the whole movie and exactly what it will look like.
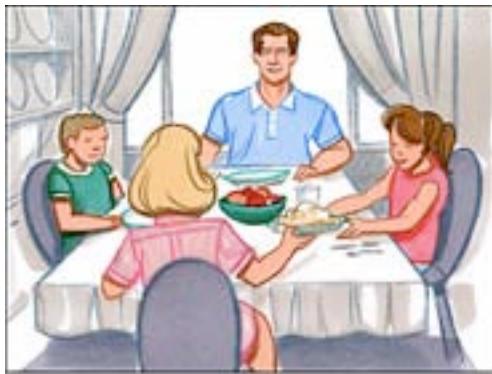
Storyboard

- Storyboard contains a rough sketch representation of the video.
- A storyboard is essentially a timeline going from top to bottom, with the top occurring first.
- The major advantage of a storyboard over a script is that it allows you to see what the scene will look like.

Storyboard

Script

The script style is similar to reading a book.
It is very useful for dialogue intensive pieces.

25   INT. UPPER FLOOR/ROOM, DERELICT WAREHOUSE - DAY 1. CONTINUOUS

PHIL / MONICA / KIDNAPPER

IN ON THE KIDNAPPER (WEARING A SKI MASK) QUICKLY FRISKING PHIL IN THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE A ROOM.

           KIDNAPPER
    Don't move. Stand perfectly still.

           PHIL
      (INDICATES THE CASE)
    The money's in here.

           KIDNAPPER
    Inside...

PHIL FEELS A JAB FROM THE GUN MUZZLE, MOVES FORWARD INTO A BARE, DINGY ROOM.

REVEAL MONICA. ONCE MORE SHE'S TIED TO A CHAIR. DESPITE THE DUCT TAPE ACROSS HER MOUTH WE HEAR HER CRY OF RELIEF - AND SEE PHIL'S.

           PHIL
    It's ok.

THE KIDNAPPER CLOSES THE DOOR.

           KIDNAPPER
    Put the money on the table.

PHIL LOOKS AT THE KIDNAPPER, GUN POISED, HARD EYES BEHIND THE SKI-MASK.

           PHIL
    First untie her. I want to make sure you haven't hurt her.

Script

Script breakdown sheet

SCRIPT BREAKDOWN SHEET

CODE — BREAKDOWN SHEETS/STRIPS
Day Ext. — Yellow
Night Ext. — Green
Day Int. — White
Night Int. — Blue
Numbers refer to budget categories

DATE

PRODUCTION COMPANY

PRODUCTION TITLE/NO.

BREAKDOWN PAGE NO.

SCENE NO.

SCENE NAME

INT. OR EXT.

DESCRIPTION

DAY OR NIGHT

PAGE COUNT

CAST
Red (1301-2-3)

STUNTS
Orange (1304)

EXTRAS/ATMOSPHERE
Green (1322)

EXTRAS/SILENT BITS
Yellow (1321)

SPECIAL EFFECTS
Blue (2300)

PROPS
Violet (2500)

VEHICLES/ANIMALS
Pink (2600/4500)

WARDROBE
Circle (3400)

MAKE-UP/HAIR
Asterisk (3500)

SOUND EFFECTS/MUSIC
Brown (5100,5500,5400)

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT
Box

PRODUCTION NOTES