

The Cutting Edge: The Art of Movie Editing

Film Screening Guide (Dir by Wendy Apple)

Name _____

1. At the beginning of this film (first 2 min.), what are **3 intro comments** made by editors/directors about the **ART and importance of editors and editing**?
2. **When** did the “**invention**” of editing happen? **Who** first developed it? What were **the 2 most significant films**? What did it provide film makers in terms of story options?
3. What are **the key roles editors play in production**? Why would an editor stay **off** of the set? What does this provide an editor?
4. Why do **one/two frames matter** so much in terms of emotional impact or flow of a film? What does this mean in terms of the editing process? How about the overall story production process?
5. Who was **D.W. Griffith** and why was he considered the first “**modern**” editor? What techniques did he add?
6. “**Classical**” film editing, “**invisible**” editing, and “**match-cut**” editing all refer to the same thing. What is it and how does it work?
7. What are some of the **unique relationships between editors and directors**? What characteristics do editors need to have to make those relationships work?
8. What kinds of new editing techniques did the “crazy” Russians promote/develop? What’s significant about each of the following people?

Dziga Vertov--*Man with the Movie Camera*

Lev Kuleshov

Sergei Eisenstein—*Battleship Potemkin*

9. What are the differences between **action** and **suspense**? What specific editing techniques are used to accentuate these differences?

Action:

Suspense:

10. How did the emergence of **SOUND/MUSIC** and the **industrial studio system** alter techniques used in film editing?

11. What does it mean to cut for **EMOTION**? How is an **ACTOR'S** performance shaped by editing? Explain.

12. What do the following directors have to say about their editorial/directorial approaches:

Jodi Foster

Sean Penn:

Martin Scorsese:

Stephen Spielberg:

13. What some of the "RULES" of editing in Hollywood films of the 1940s-50s? How did **French New Wave** films like *Breathless* break those rules? How about films such as *Bonnie and Clyde* and *Easy Rider*?

14. What are some of the issues editors take into account when piecing together **sex scenes**?

15. What are some the viewpoints expressed here about current **quick-cut editing styles** and techniques (*JFK* et.al.)?

16. How are **digital editing technologies** transforming how films are constructed?