

Storyboarding

Storyboarding for Film & Advertising

What is a storyboard?

“A storyboard is a graphic organizer in the form of illustrations or images displayed in sequence for the purpose of pre-visualizing a motion picture, animation, motion graphic or interactive media sequence”

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Where did storyboards come from?



Walt Disney started using them in the 1930s

By the late 1930s every major film studio was using them

Walt Disney

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Where are storyboards used?

Films	Comic strips
Television	Digital games
Animations	Interactive media
Music videos	Information display
Video advertisements	Multimedia presentations
Audio-visual sequences	Smartphone and tablet apps

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Why do you need a storyboard?

Creating a storyboard might just sound like an extra step in the process of making a video, but it's a step you won't want to ignore.

Here are a few reasons why you need a storyboard.

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Why do you need a storyboard?

Best way to share your vision

A visual aid makes it much easier for you to share and explain your vision for your video with others.

When you have a storyboard, you can show people *exactly* how your video is going to be mapped out and what it will look like.

This makes it infinitely easier for other people to understand your idea.

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Why do you need a storyboard?

Makes production much easier

When you storyboard you're setting up a plan for production, including all the shots you'll need, the order that they'll be laid out, and how the visuals will interact with the script.

This really comes in handy when you're making your video, as it ensures you won't forget any shots.

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Why do you need a storyboard?

Saves you time

While it may take you a little while to put your storyboard together, in the long run it will save you time in revisions later.

Not only will it help you explain your vision to your production team, it will also make the creation process go more smoothly.

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Why do you need a storyboard?

Establish framing

What should be depicted on the video, and where should the borders of the shot be located?

The framing of a shot can lead the viewer's eye to a specific place, emphasize colours or shapes, and otherwise provide visual information to accentuate the action.

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Why do you need a storyboard?

Plan actor movements and action

The motion of actors should be part of the storyboards so that both actors and directors clearly understand what the action of the scene will be.

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Why do you need a storyboard?

Plan camera movements

Storyboards can show the intended pan, tilt, or zoom of a camera, leaving the director with one less decision to worry about while filming.

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Why do you need a storyboard?

Demonstrate editing possibilities

Where to cut in a film can create dramatic tension or emphasize a joke.

Considering the length of each shot, when to cut, and what the next scene will depict all give the director greater control over shooting the film.

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How do you make a storyboard?

Create blank slides

The first step in creating a storyboard is to draw a series of frames on a piece of paper.

In each frame a different shot or scene will take place.

You can sketch the scenes by hand, create them on a computer or even take photographs.

Make sure to leave space to write notes and lines from the script beneath or next to each frame.

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How do you make a storyboard?

Add your script

Beneath each picture, write the lines from the script that will be spoken in that scene and jot down some notes about what is happening.

Your storyboard should read like a comic book, so readers (co-workers, clients, etc.) can get a sense of exactly what will happen in your video.

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Helpful Tips to Keep in Mind

Show, don't tell

Use the storyboard as a litmus test to determine if your story is truly being visualized.

The frames (pictures) should tell the story without the need of written explanations.

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How do you make a storyboard?

Sketch your story

Next, you should sketch how each scene will look.

Show what is happening, which characters are in the scene and what the general framing will look like.

Also make notes about camera angles and movement, transitions between shots and other details that will come in handy during production and post production.

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How do you make a storyboard?

Make sure it's logical and coherent

You're creating a story, so the video should look visually consistent from beginning to end.

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How do you make a storyboard?

Be cinematic

Does your video do things that movies do?

Do people, places and things move or stand still?

Does the camera move?

Keep these factors in mind and bring them all together to create a cinematic video.

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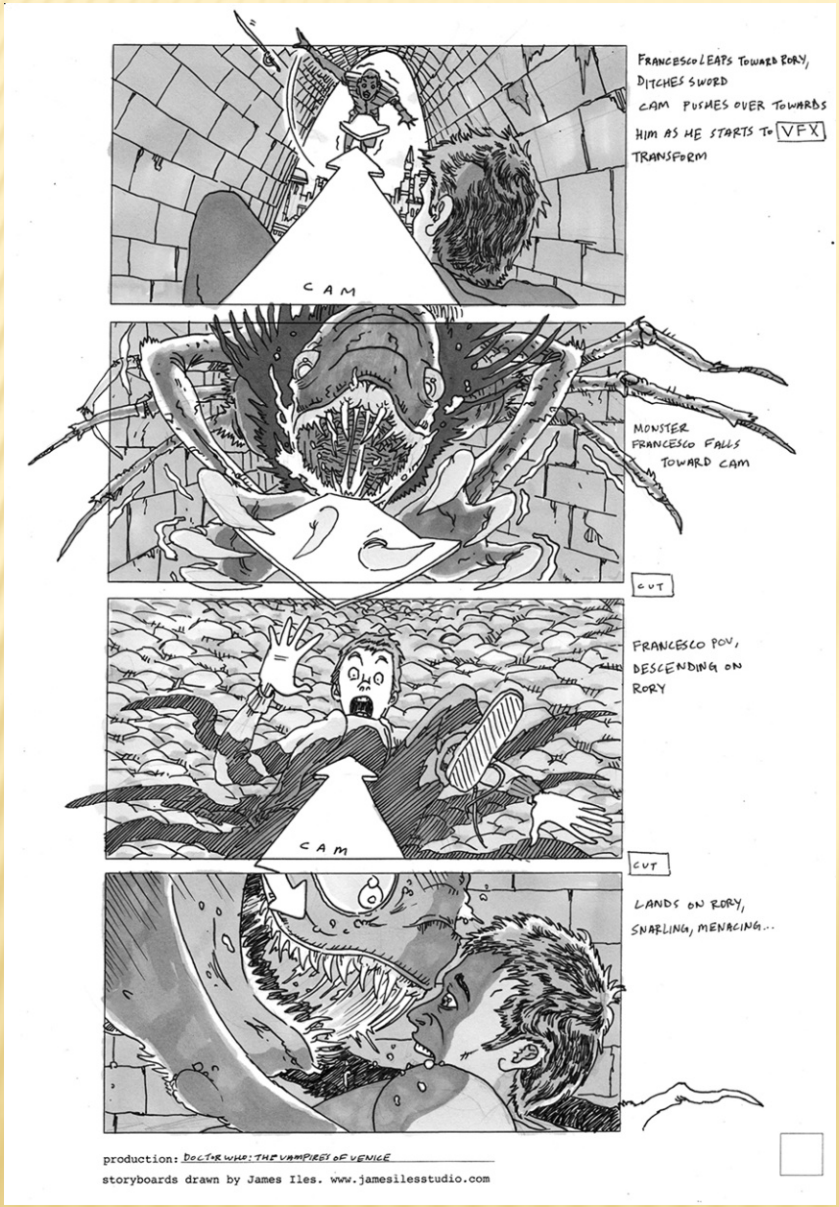
How do you make a storyboard?

Storyboarding can seem intimidating at first, but it's an integral part of your video making process.

So grab some paper and a pen and start storyboarding!

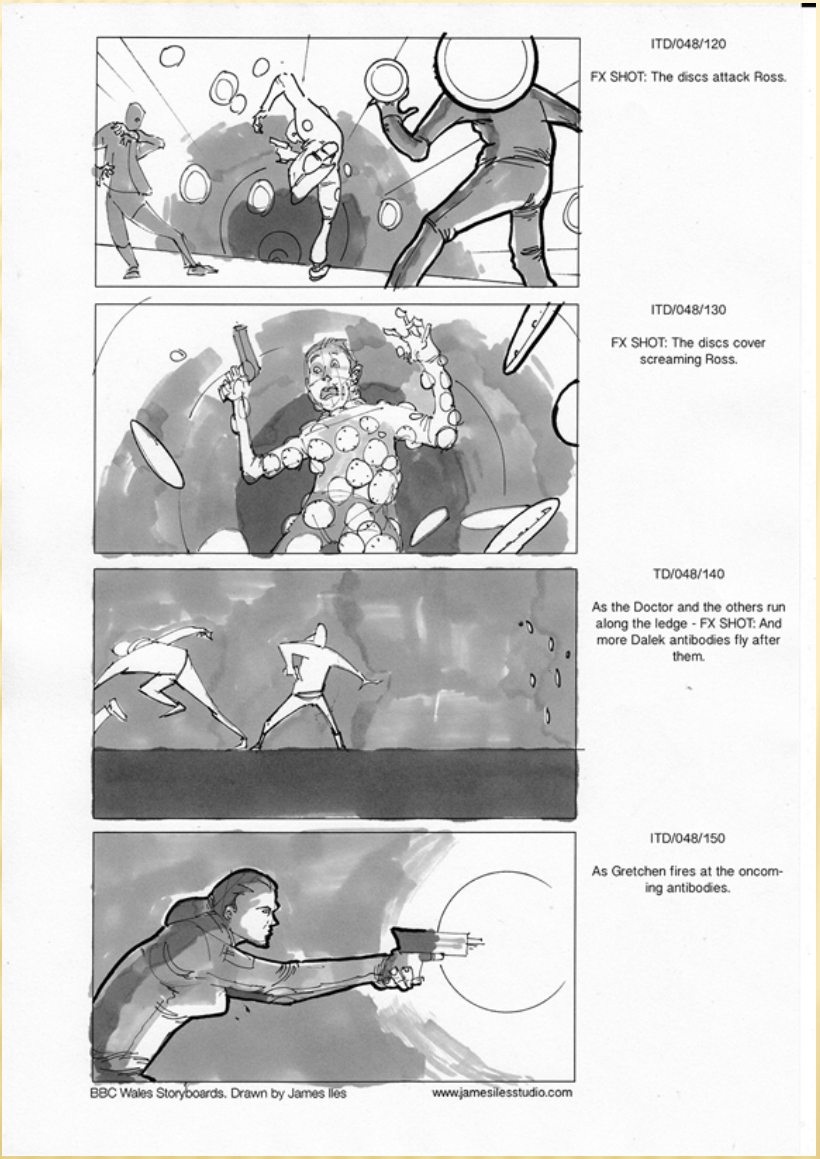
But first let's look at some examples!

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ITD/048/120

FX SHOT: The discs attack Ross.

ITD/048/130

FX SHOT: The discs cover screaming Ross.

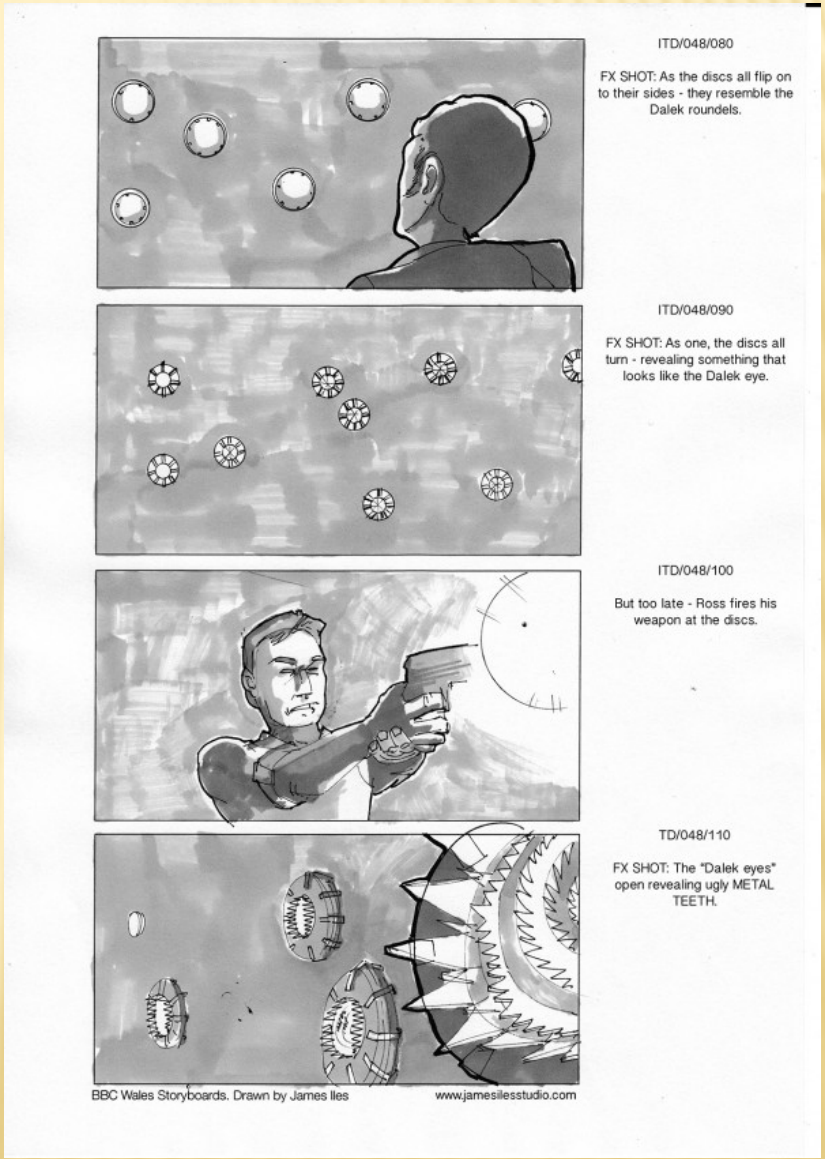
TD/048/140

As the Doctor and the others run along the ledge - FX SHOT: And more Dalek antibodies fly after them.

ITD/048/150

As Gretchen fires at the oncoming antibodies.

BBC Wales Storyboards. Drawn by James Iles www.jamesilesstudio.com



ITD/048/080

FX SHOT: As the discs all flip on to their sides - they resemble the Dalek roundels.

ITD/048/090

FX SHOT: As one, the discs all turn - revealing something that looks like the Dalek eye.

ITD/048/100

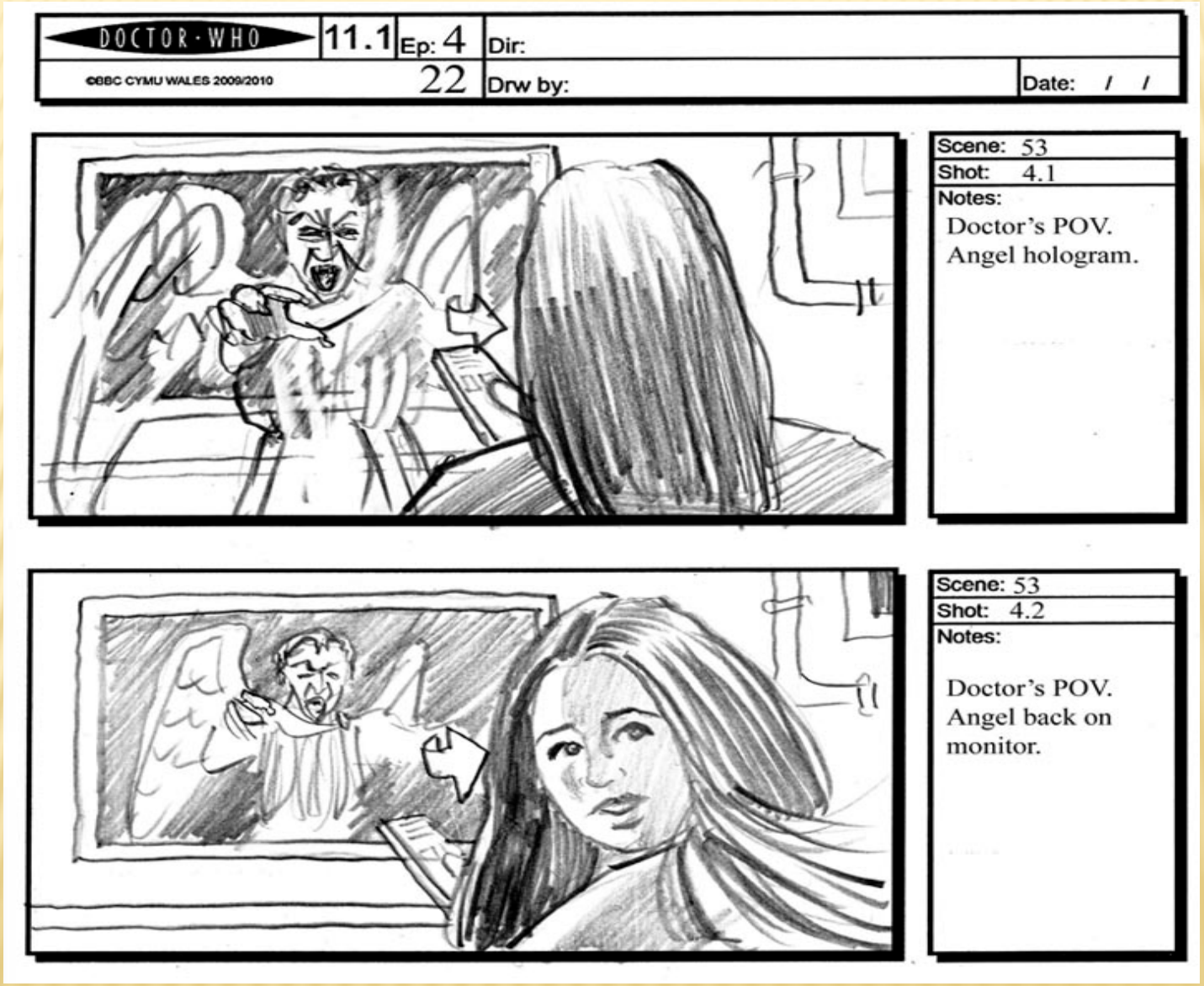
But too late - Ross fires his weapon at the discs.

TD/048/110

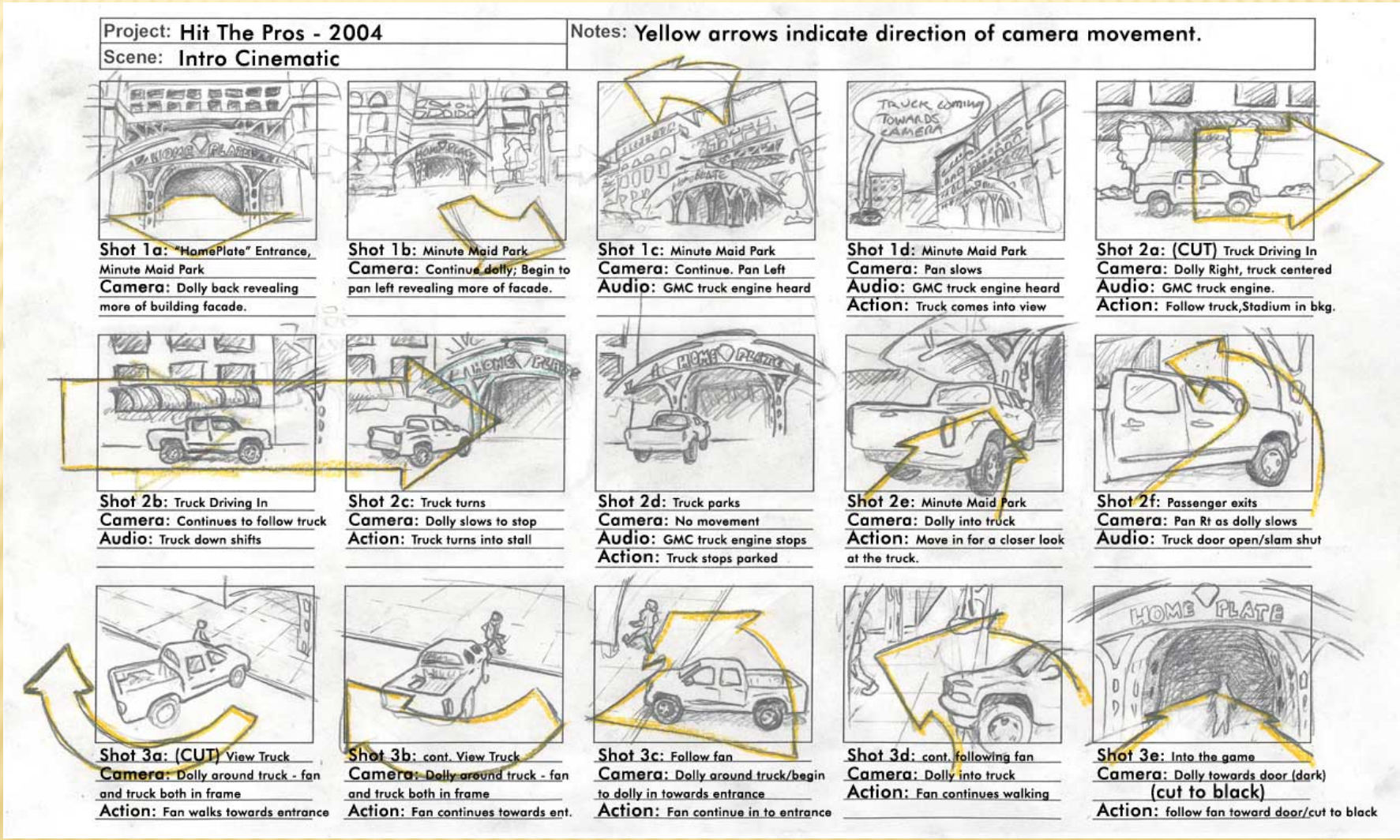
FX SHOT: The "Dalek eyes" open revealing ugly METAL TEETH.

BBC Wales Storyboards. Drawn by James Iles www.jamesilesstudio.com

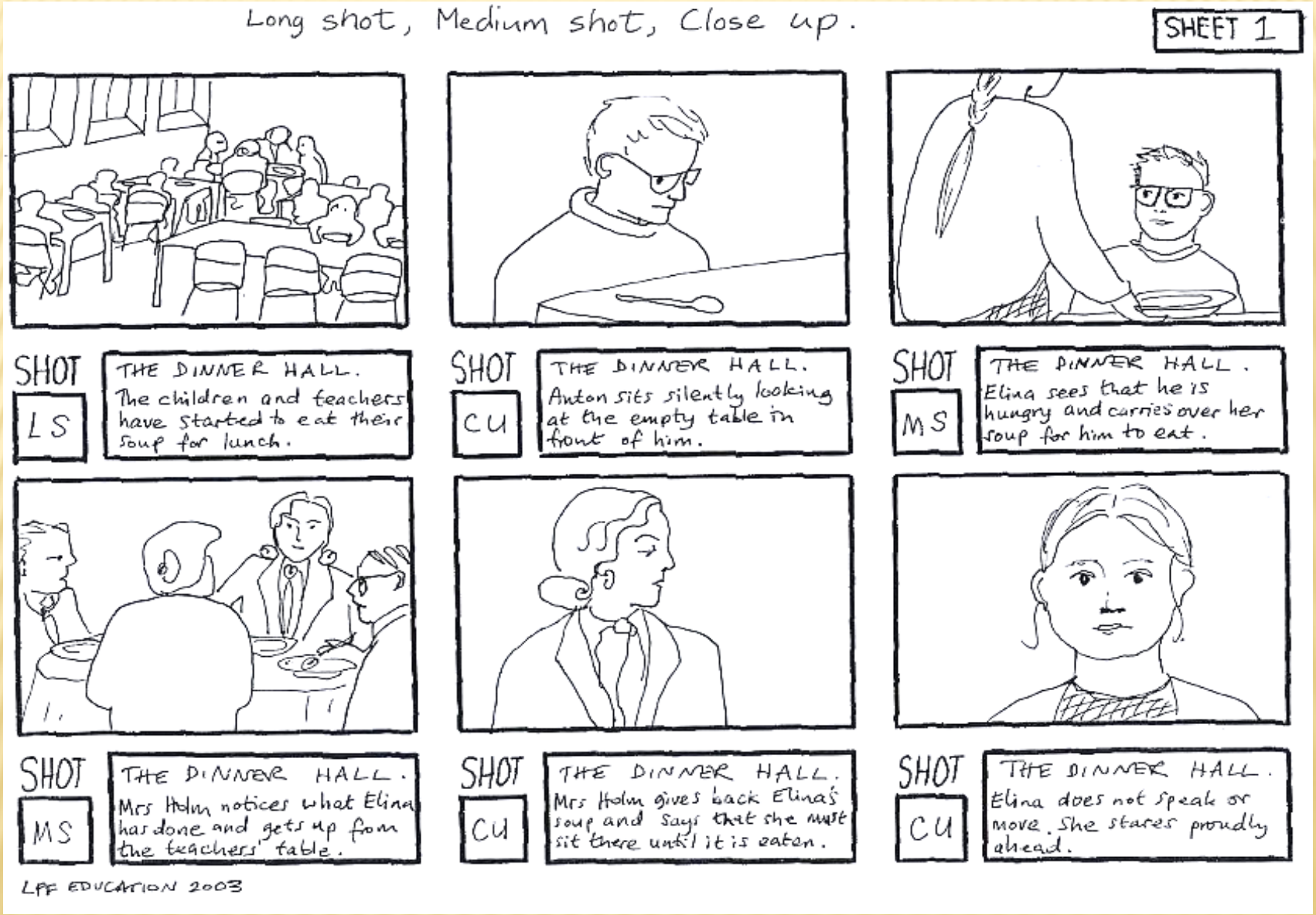
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Skull Island Squid Fight

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Zootopia

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Your task?

On the template provided, storyboard a simple task; making a cup of tea, taking the dog for a walk.

Think of how you will tell your story; what camera angles and movements will you use.

Illustrate each frame and also provide brief notes supporting each shot.