

PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs Tutorial Assessment: Lighting

Fill in the blank using the words in the box below:

key window fill hair three sun

The standard lighting set up is called a ____ point setup. The _____ light is the strongest light and is placed at a 45 degree angle from the subject on the opposite side from the camera. If you don't have a light you can also use the _____ or a _____. Another light option is the _____ light which is placed at a 90 degree angle from the subject, and fills in shadows cast by the key light. The _____ light is used to create a rim of light around subject's head and shoulder to help those areas stand out from the background.

Useful Lighting Vocabulary

barn doors- metal fixture mounted to a light source to help control the direction of the light



When using a barn door make sure to wear gloves as it can get very hot

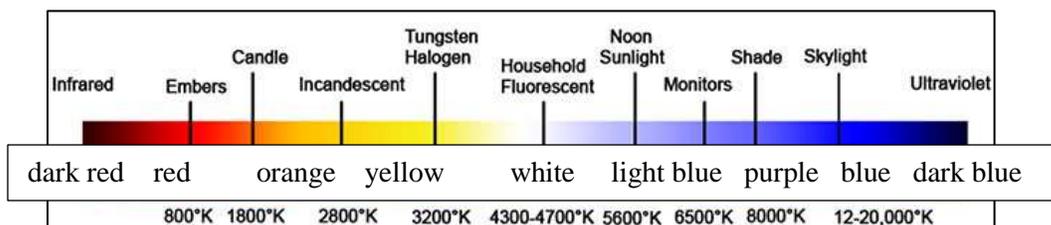
diffused light- light that is spread out instead of concentrated and produces softer light

diffusion gel-a translucent filter used to soften lighting

flexfill- a flexible springy cloth mounted to a solid shape that is used to diffuse and reflect light back on the subject. See different colors, shapes and sizes below:



lighting/color temperature- Color is produced by a lighting source dependent on its temperature in degrees Kelvin. See below for examples:



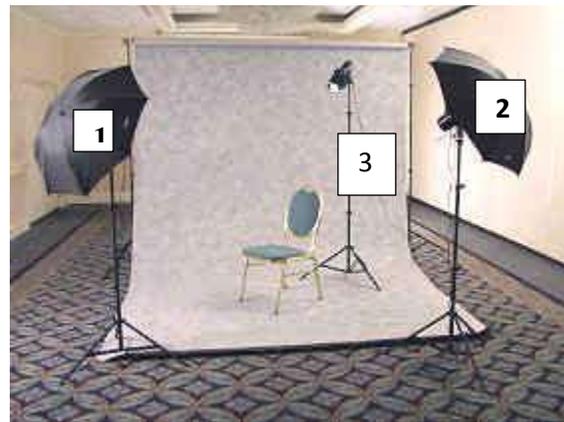
texture- the feel, appearance, or consistency of a surface or a substance

The 3- Point Setup

The standard method used when shooting in 2-Dimensions (film, photography) is called the three point setup. By using three lights in the positions seen below you are able to illuminate the subject, control for shadows, and create texture to make images “pop” even though they are still in 2-D.

Identify each light in the picture below then explain how you know in your answer:

1.



2.

3.

Hard and Soft Lighting:

Complete the table below and write an “X” to indicate which type of lighting is being described:

Descriptor	Hard Lighting	Soft Lighting
Light comes from a single source.		
Light has been diffused.		
This type of lighting does not look good in an interview.		
This lighting clearly defines shadows and highlights imperfections on the skin.		
This lighting is not good at emphasizing texture.		
Diffusion gel can produce this kind of lighting.		

Provide a short answer to the question and explain:

Overhead lighting (like fluorescent ceiling lights) should be avoided at all costs, why? Comment on using direct overhead lighting outside as well as inside.

Why are things like barn doors, flexfills and diffusion gels helpful when lighting a setting? Explain and give specific examples.

If you are outside on a sunny day how can you make sure your subject and the lighting temperature behind them will match, and why is this important?

Film is only able to capture flat or 2-D images, so how can we create images that “pop” with lighting?

Bonus:

What can you do to make sure that your lighting stands don't get knocked over?