



CHAPTER 3

FILM LANGUAGE AND ELEMENTS OF STYLE

Movement

NOTES:

CAMERA MOVEMENT

- 2 types of camera movement:
 - Fixed Camera
 - Mobile Camera



CAMERA MOVEMENTS

FIXED CAMERA

- Camera is mounted in one place.
- Subject moves within the frame.
- The camera can move in the following ways:
 - Pan – movement side to side (left to right)
 - Tilt – movement up and down
 - Zoom – moves forwards or backwards

MOBILE CAMERA

- Cinematographer holds the camera using:
- Dolly – on wheels – allows camera to move around the set.
- Track – on rails to move in straight lines.
- Crane – on a boom or mechanical arm. Camera can move through the air for overheads, sweeping, etc.





SCREENING ACTIVITY 3-1

**What's in Motion,
the Camera or the Subject?**

WHAT YOU WILL SEE...

- This film clip shows four different types of movement in shots from four different films. This first two shots are from silent films.



DIRECTIONS

- We are going to watch 4 segments of film.
- Answer the following questions about each segment in your NOTES:
 - Describe the motion that you see in the shot.
 - Is the camera fixed or in motion?



SHOT ONE:
THE STAIRCASE FROM
THE CAMERAMAN

- *Describe the movement.*
- *Fixed or Mobile camera?*



SHOT TWO:
THE CHARIOT RACE FROM
BEN HUR

- Describe the movement.
- Fixed or Mobile camera?



SHOT THREE:
SHOTS OF THE CITY FROM
WEST SIDE STORY

- Describe the movement.
- Fixed or Mobile camera?



SHOT THREE:
THE SHADOW FROM
TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

- Describe the movement.
- Fixed or Mobile camera?



CAMERA MOVEMENT

WRAPPING IT UP.....

- Camera movement within a frame can focus the viewer's attention on important details.
- TKM Example:
 - When Jem is spying on Boo, the audience sees a shadow move into the frame even though Jem does not see it at first. This indicates danger is coming towards Jem and creates suspense. When the shadow moves away, again Jem does not immediately see it although the audience does and therefore knows that the danger has passed.

