

## **Analysis of Joseph V. Mascelli's 5'C Cinematographic Technique On the movie *All Quiet on the Westren Front***

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### **Abstract**

*This study discusses the analysis of Joseph V. Mascelli's 5'C cinematographic technique in the film All Quiet On the Westren Front. This study aims to find out how the application and nuances of the film All Quiet On the Westren Front are analyzed using Joseph v. Mascelli's theory of 5'C cinematographic techniques. The type of research used is qualitative descriptive which carries out an in-depth presentation of data by describing and summarizing the phenomenon that is the object of research with data that is how many words or pictures. This research uses a communication science approach and a qualitative approach. This study uses data collection techniques in the form of documentation that is analyzed using Joseph V. Mascelli's 5'C cinematography technique and qualitative data analysis techniques by Miles and Huberman. The results of the study show that in the film All Quiet On the Westren Front, Joseph V. Mascelli applies five elements of cinematography, including the camera angle is used to show the location so that it can describe the events that occur in the film, Contiunity to depict time and space with the use of Cutting in moving scenes can facilitate understanding the storyline in the film, Close up is used to show certain details and expressions can describe the emotions of the player and Composition on the placement of objects and elements in the film can direct the attention of the audience and produce interesting visuals.*

**Keywords:** *Cinematography; Film; 5'C Technique.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Watching movies has now become an important part of human life in this day and age. For some people, movies are only entertainment when they feel bored with the routine that will be done if they have free time, but for people who like movies, they will take time to watch movies. Interest in watching movies is also accompanied by the development of the growing world of cinema. In Indonesia, according to a report by the Ministry of Education and Culture, there are 3. 423 film productions in 2020.

Film, as a part of mass media that has a high complexity, has the ability to influence the emotions of the audience through a combination of audio and visual. The concept of film as a set of specially arranged images also has a long history since its inception. The development of technology and science has allowed films to emerge and achieve great feats in creating stunning visual works. With the ability of film to string audio visuals and record the surrounding reality,

film becomes an effective means of conveying a message to the audience. (Muhammad Ali Mursid Alfathoni, et al, 2020:1). The global film industry can be divided into two broad categories: Producers and receivers. Historically, Asian countries account for the majority of films made worldwide. Four of these countries include India, China, Japan, and South Korea and are among the top five producers, along with the United States.

Film was initially created as an entertainment medium for people to release fatigue and fatigue after activities or as a means of stress relief. Watching movies can temporarily distract us from the hustle and bustle of the real world. Apart from being an entertainment that is sometimes considered a waste of time, watching movies also provides other positive benefits that can be obtained. There are various positive benefits in watching movies that can be obtained.

First, for some people, watching movies is their way of getting rid of the stress that hits them because of their daily work, Second, learning new things, many new things can be learned from movies, Third, health therapy or *cinematherapy*, Gary Solomon, Ph.D., a psychologist from *the College of Southern Nevada* revealed that watching movies has therapeutic benefits (*cinematherapy*) for the audience, and increasing social awareness, film is one of the communication media that has a great influence in shaping people's mindset.

Some of the benefits of watching movies as mentioned above can be obtained if we choose the appropriate movie genre. Not all movies have a positive impact on the audience, therefore it is very important for the audience to be a wise viewer, also limit the duration of watching so as not to interfere with the main work. Returning to the main purpose of watching movies is as an entertainer on the sidelines of busyness (Cindenia Puspitasari, 2017:1). In making a film is not easy, there are many things that must be considered and techniques that must be applied. In general, film can be broken down into two elements, namely cinematic and narrative, cinematic elements are the style for its processing, while narrative elements are teaching materials for material that will be processed later so that these two elements will form a medium called film. These two elements are important and must interact with each other so that the purpose and meaning of the story can be understood by the audience (Yudhi David Richardo Panjaitan, et al., 2022:11).

In addition to these two things, one of the important things in a film is the cinematography element that is applied. Cinematography discusses the technique of capturing images and combining them so that they become a series of images that can convey ideas or can carry a story. This makes cinematography very close to film (Musthofa Agus Suwanto, 2020:6). In other words, cinematographic techniques can also make the visuals in the image more attractive. One of the films that has the best cinematography is the film *All Quiet On The Westren Front*, released on September 29, 2022 in Germany and has aired on Netflix on October 29, 2022, this

is a film adapted from the novel by Erich Remarque of the same name in 1929. This film is set during World War I, which tells the story of a young soldier from Germany to take part in the war.

## RESEARCH METHODS

This type of research is qualitative descriptive research is research that involves analyzing factors related to the research object, while presenting more in-depth data on the research object. The approach used in this study is the communication science approach. Cinematography as an applied science that discusses the technique of capturing images by combining the images so that they become a series of images that can convey ideas and a qualitative approach aims to understand the phenomena experienced by the research subject. In this study, data collection techniques in the form of documentation will be used.

The data analysis technique used in this research is the analysis of the 5'C cinematographic technique according to Joseph V. Mascelli A.S.C which states that in cinematography there is a cinematic nuance called the 5C principle, which includes *Camera angle, Continuity, Cutting, close up, and composition*, in addition to the qualitative data analysis technique by Miles and Huberman Yang revealed that qualitative data analysis consists of three flow of activities, namely reduction data, presentation of data is and drawing conclusions.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Camera Angles

*Camera Angle* is the placement of the camera position in taking an image which plays a role in determining the angle of view of the viewer and also to show the place or location of each image.

#### a. Type of Camera Angle

The type of camera angle is divided into three, including *the Objective camera angle*, which positions the audience as an observer, the audience does not see the action in the scene or through anyone in the scene (Steve R. Cartwright, et al., 110). *Subjective camera angle* is a type of camera angle that brings the audience into the subject's view, as if the audience is part of the experience (John Suler, et al., 2018:21). *Point of View (POV)* is the same type of camera angle as *the over the shoulder angle* that places the viewer as a third person who is invisible and observes the story (Kim Golombisky, et al., 2010,172).



**Figure 1.1**  
*Objective camera angle*



**Figure 1.2**  
*Subjective camera angle*



**Figure 1.3**  
*Point of View*

Figure 1.1 above shows the *objective camera angle* shooting technique at the beginning of the film at 2.50 minutes. The picture can show the audience how the conditions of the battlefield are in the film. Figure 1.2 shows the *subjective camera angle* shooting technique at 2.55 minutes. In this picture, the viewer is brought to see the conditions in the war area as if the audience is at the location in question. Figure 1.3 shows the *Point Of View (POV)* shooting technique at 35.52 minutes. In this image, the viewer is placed as a third party involved in the conversation between two players.

*b. Subject Size*

The image size in the *camera angle* is divided into several types including *Extreme Long Shot (ELS)* or wide shot which shows the setting more predominantly than the object, thus making the object smaller. This type of *shot size* can show the location setting or create the impression of loneliness, loss, and insignificance. We can also find this type of *Shot size* at the beginning or at the end of an audio-visual work (Nicholaus Wayong Kabelen, 2021:2).



**Figure 1.4**  
*Extreme Long Shot*

The image above shows the *extreme long shot* shooting technique available at 8.10 minutes which shows a car in a large area that can be seen from a distance.

*Long Shot* (LS) is a shooting technique with a wide frame area, meaning that in addition to the main object in the background, it is also captured by the camera with a large enough area. Unlike extreme long shots, this technique has limitations, namely if the object is a human from toe to head, but still provides a little space around the object (Desipriani, et al., 2022:144).



**Figure 1.5**  
*Long Shot*

The image above shows the *long shot* shooting technique at 8.47 minutes which shows a group of people who also show the *background* of the place.

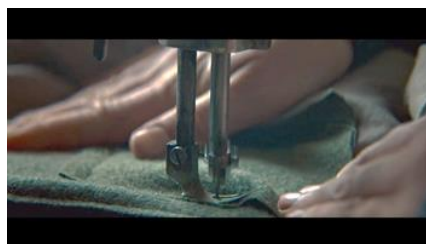
*Medium Shot* that takes objects from the waist to the top of the head. This type of shot is usually used to make it easier to take close-ups on moving objects (Nicholaus Wayong Kabelen, 2021:3). *Close up* with a technique of taking pictures closer to human objects from the shoulders to the head. The *close up technique* functions in displaying the details of a character's character or facial expression (Desipriani, et al, 2022:144). *Insert* is cutting framed from a distance into a close-up shot. Inserts shot are used to display detailed information such as the time on the watch, or messages written on notes (Robin S. Beauchamp, 2013:27).



**Figure 1.6**  
*Medium Shot*



**Figure 1.7**  
*Close up*

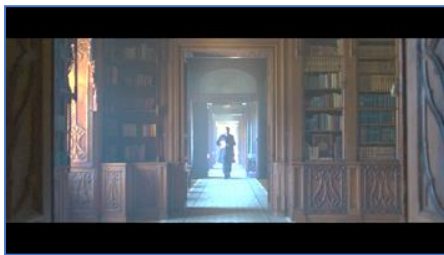


**Figure 1.8**  
*Insert*

In image 1.6 there is at 37.14 minutes using a *medium shot technique* that shows two people walking. Figure 1.7 is available at 11.59 minutes using a *close-up* technique that shows the subject's face. Figure 1.8 is at 7.56 which shows the details of a person's hand being sewn.

c. *Camera height*

*Camera height* in *camera angle* is divided into several types, including *level angle*, which is the camera placed parallel to the object. The effect caused from this point of view seems to be a normal view or like looking directly at an object with the eyes (Omie Rizky Nathan, et al., 2020: 24). *High angle* Shooting by tilting the camera down provides a more objective view of the arrangement of people or objects as well as the activities that are taking place. *Low angle* shooting by tilting the camera upwards which positions the camera lower than the subject to be recorded (Kelly Gordon Brine, 2020:71).



**Figure 1.9**  
*Level Angle*



**Figure 1.10**  
*High angle*



**Figure 1.11**  
*Low angle*

Figure 1.9 is at 35.19 which shows a person walking. Figure 1.10 is at 40.51 which shows a group of people sitting, Figure 1.11 is at 1.14.53 which shows a group of people looking up.

The angle plus angle *shooting technique* is to record one scene of two types of *camera angles*, the camera can be tilted to the subject such as up or down. The camera can also point up or down to record the top or bottom of the subject (Joseph V. Mascelli, 1998:45). *Tilt Dutch Angle* is by positioning the camera diagonally so that it produces an image that is oblique, not upright and flat. The imbalance of the image can make the viewer feel how unstable the character or the subject's environment is (Christopher J. Bowen, et al., 2013:82).



**Figure 1.12**  
*Tilt Dutch Angle*

The camera angle in the film *All Quite on the Westren Front* is to place the camera position that points to the object or location to be recorded which can affect the viewer's point of view. In this film, camera angles are widely used to show locations and objects so that they can depict events that occur using various types of angle cameras.

## 2. *Continiuty (Continuity)*

*Continiuty* or continuity is a continuous flow in a film that includes space and time. True continuity will make the audience integrate into the story that is built without having to be disturbed by the movement from one shot to another that is not continuous. There are two types of *continuity*, including *Time countinuty* and *Space countinuty*.

### a. *Time countinuty*

Joseph V. Mascelli divides *time countinuty* into four categories, including present, past, future, and conditioned (1998). In the film *All quite on the westren front*, the continuity of time used is now. In this film, it tells the plot based on the continuity of the present time, in other words, describing events as if they are happening now. Thus, the event is revived as if it happened in the present and not in the past. In the film *All Quite On The Westren Front*, the continuity of time that occurs can be seen in several scenes such as when the war occurs sequentially from the beginning of the story to the end and the conversations that occur between the characters.

### b. *Space countinuty*

*Space countinuty* (continuity of space) is an event in a film where the film moves from one place to another continuously or continuously (Firdaus Yudi Ramadhan, et al, 2022:111).

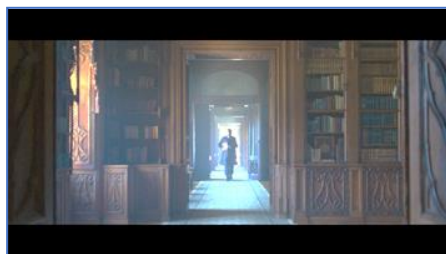


Figure 2.1



Figure 2.2

In this film, it involves the continuity of space that can be seen in the image above. Figure 2.1 at 36.23 minutes shows the location or place in a room and continues with scene image 2.2 at 36.29 minutes showing a place that is outdoors. This makes there is a space displacement or continuity of space that occurs in the film for the sustainability of the film plot.

The *countinuty* in the film *All Quite on the Westren Front*, either from the continuity of time or space, describes the time and space that exist in the film so that they are related to each other which makes the storyline in the film understandable to the audience.

## 3. *Cutting*

*Cutting* is the cutting of images into images that will be combined into a scene that can be mutually sustainable. Cutting is divided into two of them, *countinuty cutting*, consisting of

matching cuts where a continuous scene flows from one shot to another. *complication cutting*, consists of cuts that illustrate what is heard and do not need to have visuals of each other (Joseph V. Mascelli, 1998:147-152).

a. *Continiuty cutting*

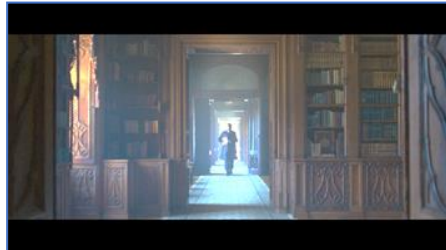


Figure 3.1



Figure 3.2

In the image above shows the countinuity cutting which can be seen in image 3.1 at 43.33 minutes and image 3.2 at 43.46 minutes where in the first image it shows a shot of a person walking and continues with the second image of the person sitting. In this scene, you can see scenes that flow from shot to shot continuously.

b. *Complication cutting*



Figure 1.17

*Complication cutting* describes what is heard and does not need to have the same visuals in this film, it can be seen in the image above which shows someone shouting at someone else, but in this scene it does not show the person who is screaming, but the person who is being shouted. This *scene* is at 42.22 minutes.

Cutting or editing the image in the film *All Quiet on the Western Front* is applied to describe how to move scenes to other scenes that are in accordance with the script or script in the film. Thus the audience can understand what is happening in the film.

#### 4. Close up

*Close up* is a shooting technique by showing images of varying sizes that can be recorded up close in order to show certain details. According to Joseph V. Mascelli (1998:175) there are several types of *close-up photography*, including:

1. *Medium close up*, from about halfway between the waist and shoulders to the top of the head.
2. *Head and shoulder close up*, from the shoulders to the top of the head.
3. *Head close up*, only the head.

4. *Choker close up*, under the lips to above the eyes.

5. *Extreme close up*, a small object or area, or a small part of a large object or area.

6. *Over the shoulder close up*, taking a picture of someone visible from behind another person's shoulder in the background.



**Figure 4.1**  
*Medium close up*



**Figure 4.2**  
*Head and shoulder close up*



**Figure 4.3**  
*Head close up*



**Figure 4.4**  
*Choker close up*



**Figure 4.5**  
*Extreme close up*



**Figure 4.6**  
*Over the shoulder close up*

The application of *close up* in the film can make it easier for the audience to know the small parts that exist, especially in the expressions or emotions of the characters who are confused, sad, angry, in pain and so on.

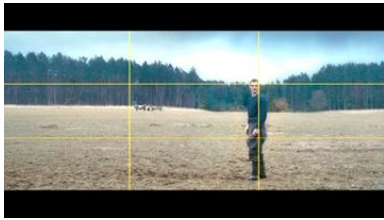
## 5. *Composition*

*Composition* is the placement of an object at a specific position on the screen or frame when taking a picture. Viewers can enjoy more vivid images and direct their attention to objects in the frame with effective composition (Dana, 2023:14). There are several types of compositions including:

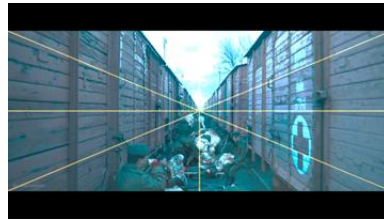
*Rule of Thrid*, This composition is the most basic composition. This composition divides the photo field into 9 squares of equal size and places the POI (*Point Of Interest*) at the point where the lines meet in the plane that is divided into 3 x 3. *Leading Line*, A composition that uses a virtual or real line that leads us to an object that is a *point of interest* or the line itself that is a *point of interest*. *Framing*, This composition uses the frame to direct the eye to look at the inside of the frame which is the *point of interest*. The frame in question is not a photo frame but an object that can be used as a frame (Yana Erlysana, et al, 2019:73).

*Center composition* is a composition that displays objects in a similar pattern at the top-bottom or right-left. In the middle bigian, the main object is usually placed as a *point of interest* (Ketut Nala Hari Wardana, et al, 2023:77). *Symmertry Composition* A *symmetry* photo composition is the placement of objects that are arranged in such a way that their position is

balanced between the left and right parts and can also be between the top and bottom (Edi Suryawan, et al, 2020:586).



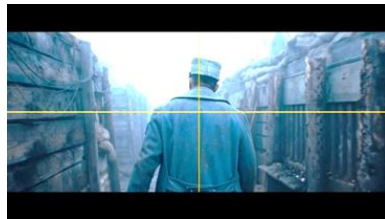
**Figure 5.1**  
*Rule of Third*



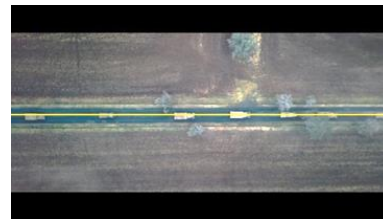
**Figure 5.2**  
*Leading Line*



**Figure 5.3**  
*Framing*



**Figure 5.4**  
*Center composition*



**Figure 5.5**  
*Symmetry Composition*

The composition of the image aims to direct the audience's attention to the *point of interest* and make the image more interesting can make the audience enjoy the visuals of the image given in the film.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### Conclusion

In the movie *All Quite on the Western Front*, Joseph V. Mascelli's use of 5C cinematography techniques or 5C techniques has played an important role in creating interesting and emotional visuals. These techniques include *Camera angle*, *Continuity*, *Cutting*, *Close up*, and *Composition*, which are used effectively to show locations, events, and characters in a movie. With the use of various *angle* cameras, viewers can see different angles and get different meanings. Through *continuity* and *cutting*, the storyline can be understood more easily, while *close-ups* are used to describe the emotions and details of certain objects. Image composition allows directing the audience's attention to create an interesting and impactful image. Thus, effective cinematography techniques in this film can make the story more emotional and influence the audience in understanding the message conveyed.

### Suggestion

The application of good cinematography techniques in films can affect whether the images produced are good or not. Because cinematography can create beautiful images, cinematography is important in film or videography. Therefore, it is hoped that there will be continuous research related to cinematography both from other perspectives or other opinions so that it can be an additional knowledge related to cinematography techniques, especially in film.

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