1. Introduction – L
   - We are a group of A Level students made up of Jason, Ben and myself Liam called HMP Films.
   - We have been given the brief to create a short 3-5 minute single camera opening sequence to a film.
   - We have made this presentation in order to re-assure you of our pre-production planning and to help finance our production.
   - Here is some of the elements of pre-production we have done so far:
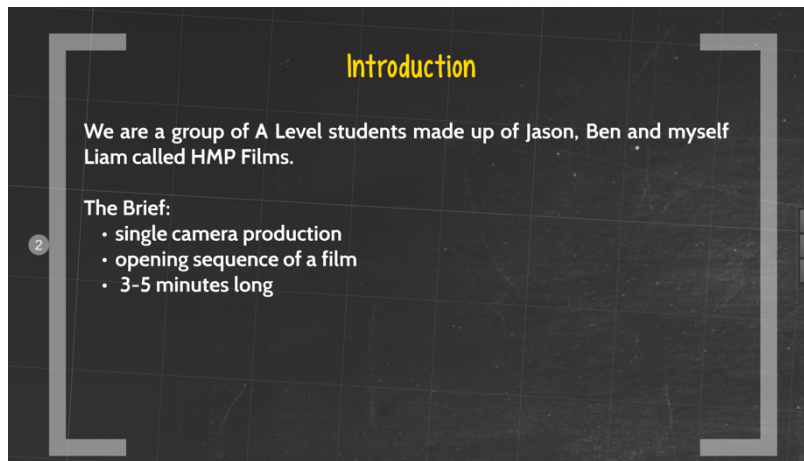

2. Synopsis Development - J
   - The development of our synopsis was one of the first stages of our pre-production planning as it is a vital part of the production as it is what the rest of our planning is based around , without it we wouldn't have been able to develop other aspects such as the story boards or the location reccee. The synopsis is also necessary as it is makes up the framework of our initial production planning as we can use it to think about other key details such as the type of character needed to portray that role and the types of equipment we will require to shoot the specific scenes.

   - Initially we began by researching into different types of openings for films, this included big film productions such as Jaws, James Bond and The Dark Knight to see what aspects of that opening make a film more iconic and the different effects they used. (Refer to handout) We then went on to looking at more amateur film openings of students from other schools as they were given a similar brief to ours which greatly helped us to narrow down a few desired genres that we wished to have. We then looked at each genre in greater depth such as horror and action, we then weighed up the positives and negatives of each genre which then helped us to choose the right genre for us, for example horror had many downsides such as difficulty scaring the audience as creating the correct atmosphere is challenging and it also hard to source costumes that are realistic, and comedy which also had an abundance of disadvantages such as difficulty to act and hard to come up with a funny plot. Having weighed up the pros and cons we were able to choose the genre of psychological thriller. (Refer to genre mind map on handout)

3. Character Details - B

Within our pre production work we came up with a variety of ideas around the character for what kind of clothing he would be wearing, any accessories he may have (tattoos, earrings) and also facial appearance, does his face have a beard? Scruffy hair? – Does the character look after himself, or do we create the character as a messy look with messy hair, dirty clothing (unclean, baggie clothes (tracksuit)) as after all he is hiding from the police and wouldn't care about his appearance and is just worrying about getting away.

Once discussing ideas around the appearance of the character we then put our ideas into a mind map to expand upon our ideas further and we also looked at film characters with similar genres and similar opening scenes and analysed these characters and used these characters to give us more ideas on how our character will look and actions of the character (fidgeting in sleep, sweating etc) and make the film feel more real and effective.
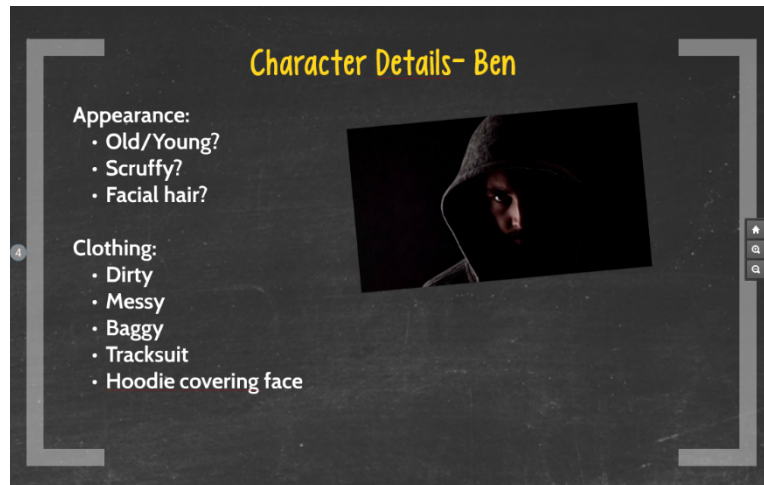

4. Location Recce –L/B

- Throughout the pre-production stage of our sequence opening, we came up with a number of different ideas for what kind of locations we might want to use and different ideas for the style of our locations.
- In our original Plot, we had an idea for the character to be on the run hiding in a hotel like setting. However, being able to find a location such as this was pretty challenging to do.
- We therefore decided to widen our ideas, but we still wanted a location that could convey similar themes, such as:
   - A dark
    - Dull
    - or tense atmosphere

Recce:
- After coming up with these ideas, we went on a location Recce to scout for locations which could've been suitable for our production, while on the recce we took pictures of the location and took notes on different aspects.
- We then wrote a report detailing what aspects we liked and what we disliked about each location.
- This helped us to narrow down where we will film our opening sequence to our film.
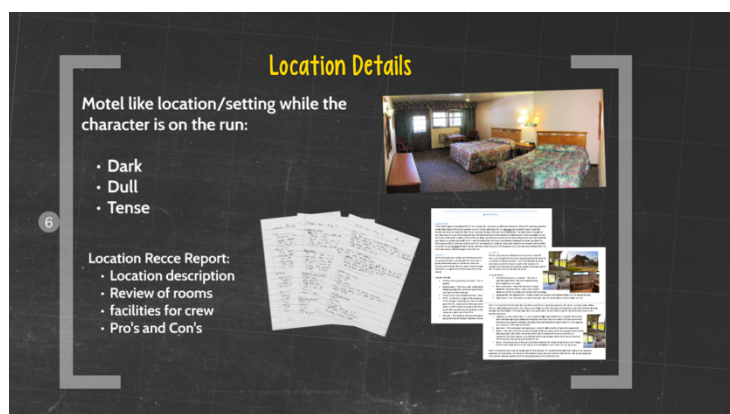
5. Props -B

We as a group discussed many possible props we could use, from a flashing police light app to water being used as sweat, both vital for the success of our opening scene.

Within our pre production work we listed all the props were going to use, and also props we could use and discussed how were going to gather these props and also where and when were going to use the prop effectively, for instance the glass will be dropped and smashed just after the knock at the door as this will sound very affective as the character knows he's been found, and also within our discussion we decided the camera angle of close up on the glass as it smashes and the camera will be on the floor so your able to see the police under the door too.
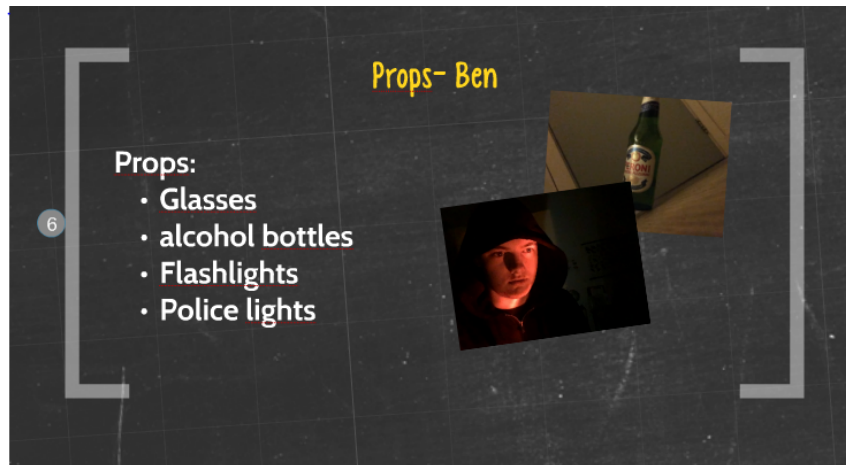
6. Scripts and Storyboards- B

Throughout our pre production work, the storyboard was one of our main priorities as without it we would not be able to know what is going on in each shot clearly, and also it prevents us from being organised. The storyboard is what allowed to us to discuss many ideas such as:

- Best possible camera angles to happen in each shot
- What will happen within each shot (Mise-en-scene)
- How long each shot will be (with this it prevents the opening not being to long and dragged out (boring) , and also not too short and rushed – looks as though we haven't spent a lot of time on it) makes the opening a perfect length. As with our first original plan was of a car chase, once we started producing our structured story board we evaluated how long its going to take and we realised that its just simply too long and complex for an opening scene and we then begin developing ideas and came up with the plot we have now.

Once we discussed what camera angles and what will happen within the shots, we then went away and not only did we test the cameras footage in which we are going to use (to see how clear the footage was and to see if the camera we were using is the best we can use within our budget), but we also rein acted the shots with the camera angles to see the effect it was giving and if the camera angle was the best angle we could use to make our film opening the best it can be.

7. Health and Safety-J

- To assess the level of health and safety that surrounds the filming of our film we began by looking a potential hazards in the areas that we wanted to film in, we then put the hazards into a table of risks, the risks were then rated on their likelihood of happening, then the severity of the risk and what that risk affects whether that is the actors and crew or the equipment we were using. Assessing the risks was of extreme importance for our production as we did not want any of our actors or crew to be harmed in any way, and if this was a big budget production we would need insurance.

8. Legal Implications-J

9. Technicalities- L

- There is a large amount of technical equipment that will be used for our production throughout, through pre-to-post production.
- Many of the different types of equipment that we will use in our production, are items that we already own, for example:
  - o We will use different computers such as PC's and Mac's, these will be sourced by ourselves and school
  - o Different types of camera equipment, for example we are currently testing different types of camera's such as iPhone's and Sony cameras in order to find which cameras are most suitable for our production based on different factors
    - Again, these can also be sourced by ourselves as we own a range of different cameras.
- There is also a range of different types of software which will be used throughout the production process, such as presentation software and different types of editing software, for example we will use Adobe Premiere Pro CS6 in order to edit the footage of our film and different sound editing software like Adobe Audition. These types of software are also already owned and are available to us at school.
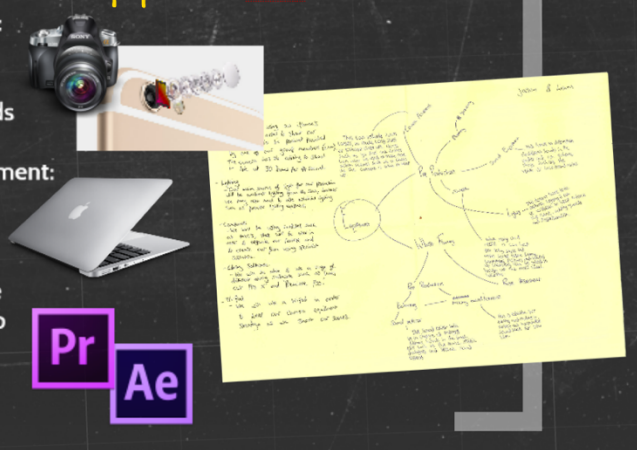
10. Budgets and Finance - L

- We have identified what finances are available to us and have also looked closely at the potential costs of our production and found ways to minimise our costs in order to help you to save as much finances as possible.
- This involved looking at the different equipment which would be required from pre-to-post-production and finding the costs of each item in order to save as much money as possible.
- Another way we reduced the costs in our production is using different equipment that we already owned or could get at little or no cost, for example we knew we already owned different types of cameras, computers and software.
- These factors helped us to reduce the costs of our production substantially.

10. Conclusion