Visual Intelligence Expressed In Film Editing Decisions

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ABSTRACT

Purpose and Design: to discover how five individuals would use their visual intelligence to interpret and recompose fill footage in a meaningful and artistic way.

Methodology /approach used: Experiment and analysis. Five students were given identical footage and the assignment to edit that footage. Analysis focused on variations in their application of visual intelligence.

Finding(s) Everybody had the same skills but came up with vastly different products.

Practical Implication: Cinema educators can identify personal styles and competencies early in the educational process thus taking into account the interaction of visual skills with individual intelligence.

Originality /value: Despite a lot of information on intelligence, little is known about visual intelligence in editing choices for film. The overall understanding of intelligence involves common mainstream measurements that focus on high pass mark in Mathematics and science related subjects. This is a form of discrimination that has been in existence and unfortunately applied in selection of students in the world of creative art and has the potential of locking out creative minds that are not geared toward science and mathematics. My research involves discovering a different form of intelligence that is not taught, rewarded or recognized within our elementary to advanced form of education.

Some form of intelligence is necessary when editing visual images and this will be appreciated by comparing the choices made on the same raw footage by five different film editors. The immediate objective of this study is to analyze how visual intelligence is expressed when making editing decisions that make some films interesting and captivating to watch. This paper will underscore the importance of holistically reviewing and appreciating different categories of intelligence and not lock out creative and innovative minds just because certain individuals do not exhibit intelligence as defined by our education system.

Keywords: film editing, visual intelligence, creativity,