



Episode 2.5

Your Reel

A Reel Opportunity

Name: _____

Date: _____

*"If you intend for agents and managers to see this reel, then you want to make sure you're showcasing your absolute best work."
- Chelsea*

If an amazing headshot is the most important tool in the actor's kit, then having a good reel isn't too far behind. But not all reels are created equal, and not just any reel will do. If you have footage, shape it and sharpen it into a reel that shines. If you don't have footage, make footage. A reel is a must-have for an actor at the beginning of their journey, and with all the tools available today, there's no excuse to be without one for very long.



[DEFINITION] Reel: A video sample of an actor's work on camera, used as proof of skill for Casting Directors, Agents, and Managers. Should be no more than ___ to ___ minutes.

Got footage? Great! Follow these steps to create a great reel that features your talent.

NOTES

1. C_____ F_____. Chase it down! You might have to be persistent and relentless, but don't give up!
2. P_____ F_____. Put your best footage forward because there's no guarantee Casting Directors, Agents, and Managers will watch your reel in its entirety.
3. Keep it S_____ & S_____. This isn't a short film. Get in, get out, and move on.
4. S_____ your S_____. This is about featuring the best parts of your footage. Remember, it doesn't have to tell a story.
5. E_____. Find someone who can do this for you, either professionally or in your circle of friends. iMovie, Final Cut, and Adobe Premiere Pro are all common editing software programs.
6. Add your T_____ I_____. Make sure you include name and contact info in your outro, and consider labeling your clips with the title of the project.

The Essentials Series



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No footage? No problem! Follow these steps to create scenes for your reel.

Name: _____

Date: _____

*"Along with a headshot, you have to have a reel. They really go hand in hand."
- Abbie*

NOTES

1. Know your T_____. Plan out six scenarios that involve these types. Be creative!
2. F_____ and/or W_____ the scenes that match the types you chose. You can even improv the scenes if you don't feel confident writing them.
3. G_____ C_____ on the material. Also, don't be afraid to adjust or rewrite the scenes to make them fit you better.
4. Make sure your W_____ matches your T_____. Plan ahead as to what your character would wear.
5. Find a G_____ C_____ and a P_____ F_____. Plan ahead and prepare.



[DEFINITION] Self Tape: *An audition that the actor tapes on their own that is submitted typically as the preliminary audition piece for a project. Works best when shot from shoulders to top of head against a neutral background.*



[TIP] Always Be Updating! *Your reel is a snapshot of your greatest hits as an actor. As you finish new projects, make sure you're swapping out old footage for new so your reel feels fresh.*