

INTRODUCING DOCUMENTARIES VOCABULARY

Dialogue – conversations that take place between subjects in a film (or subjects and the filmmaker)

Factual –attempting to relay information that is accurate about something real or actual; based on facts

Fictional – something invented or imagined; a made-up story

Footage – refers to all material used in a film, including edited and unedited sequences

Opinion – an evidence-based personal belief or judgment that, unlike a fact, can be disputed by another person without either of you being wrong (e.g., Vanilla is the best flavor for ice cream)

Persuade - to cause to believe; convince

Point of View – sometimes abbreviated as POV, the perspective from which a story is told; in film, also refers to a shot that depicts a character's outlook or position

Re-enactment – a depiction created at a later time than the actual event

Represent – to re-tell; all media is a representation of something (e.g., a photograph of a horse is not the actual horse; it represents the horse)

Stock footage (archival footage) – footage that is included in a film that is often shot by another filmmaker or for another project and not specifically for the film

Subjects - the topics of the film or the people the film features

Voice-over – a production technique or creative device in which an off-screen voice is used for narration. This voice often establishes context and was recorded at another point in time.