

# Video Production

This Blueprint contains the subject matter content for the Career Essentials - Assessment.

**Note:** To fully prepare for the [Video Production](#) SkillsUSA Championships contest, refer to the current year's SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standard, now included with your SkillsUSA Professional Membership. If you need help in accessing this benefit, contact the SkillsUSA Customer Care Team at 844-875-4557 or [customercare@skillsusa.org](mailto:customercare@skillsusa.org)

## Standards and Competencies

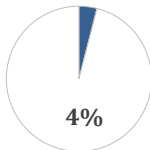
Competencies are weighted throughout the assessment. The percent shown is the weight of the competency. There are 50 questions per assessment.

### Apply the knowledge and skills necessary to describe the production overview



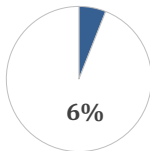
- Describe video production careers.
- Explain production overview.
- Complete program proposal and treatment for a production.
- Explain the three production steps.
  - Explain preproduction.
  - Define the production stage.
  - Explain the post-production step.
- Complete storyboards for a production.
- Define script writing guidelines.
- Explain costing out a production.

### Implement the knowledge needed to describe how television works, video quality and color



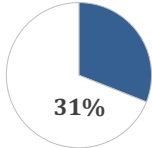
- Describe fields and frames.
- Define interlaced and progressive scanning.
- Describe analog and digital signals.
- Demonstrate use of waveform monitor and vectorscope.
- Describe principles of color.

### Apply the knowledge needed to describe and demonstrate lens operation and control



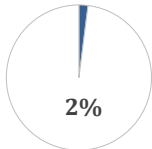
- Describe the type of lenses.
- Define angle of view.
- Describe zoom ratio.
- Demonstrate proper exposure control.
- Demonstrate control of depth of field.
- Illustrate focusing/follow focus/rack focus/macro focus.
- Explain the application of filters.
- Explain image stabilization.

**Apply the knowledge and skills necessary to describe and demonstrate camera operation and control**



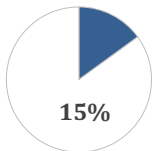
- Define video resolution.
- Describe and demonstrate camera mounts and tripod use.
- Operate camera pan heads.
- Demonstrate basic camera moves (e.g., pan/tilt/dolly/truck/pedestal).
- Illustrate black balancing and white balancing.
- Describe shutter speed.
- Demonstrate control of exposure through the use of f-stops.
- Explain frame rate.
- Demonstrate use of camera viewfinder.
- Describe a safe area.

**Implement the skills and knowledge needed for describing and demonstrating composition**



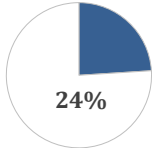
- Demonstrate insert and cutaway shots.
- Describe and demonstrate proper subject composition.
- Demonstrate leading the subject.
- Describe the Rule of Thirds.

**Apply the knowledge and skills needed to describe and demonstrate video lighting**



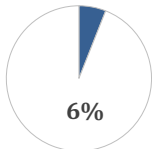
- Describe hard and soft lighting.
- Define color temperature.
- Demonstrate intensity control through varying distances.
- Identify lighting instruments.
- Identify attachments to lighting instruments.
- Demonstrate three-point lighting (i.e., key/fill/back light).
- Describe lighting ratios.
- Describe backlight intensity.
- Describe subject-to-background distance
- Describe area lighting.
- Apply the uses of existing (natural) light.
- Demonstrate drawing of a light plot.
- Identify lighting controls.
- Calculate on-location power needs.

### Implement the skills and knowledge needed to describe and demonstrate audio



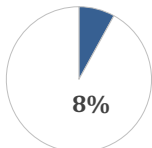
- Demonstrate proper mic placement and how to evaluate varying acoustic environments.
- Differentiate major microphone categories (shotgun, lavalier, headset, stick, etc.).
- Describe directional characteristics.
- Define handheld and personal microphones.
- Position microphones.
- Identify audio connectors.
- Demonstrate positioning of microphone cables.
- Describe types and uses of wireless microphones.
- Describe digital audio.
- Describe analog audio.
- Demonstrate operation of audio mixer controls.
- Describe issues of using audio from a PA system.
- Describe production communication systems.

### Apply the knowledge and skills needed to describe and demonstrate video recording media



- Describe the video recording process.
- Describe video servers.
- Define video and audio codecs
- List professional video formats.

### Apply the knowledge and skills needed to describe and demonstrate video editing



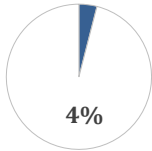
- Describe continuity editing.
- Demonstrate continuity techniques.
- Demonstrate cutaways.
- Illustrate shooting angles.
- Describe or demonstrate audio continuity.
- Demonstrate maintaining consistency in action and detail.
- Demonstrate operation of software-based editors.
- Explain timecode.

### Apply the knowledge and skills needed to describe and demonstrate graphics



- Describe titling and motion graphics.
- Demonstrate proper contrast and readability of graphics.
- Demonstrate proper font selection based on genre or content.

**Apply the knowledge and skills needed to describe and demonstrate location production**



- Complete a location survey.
- Define camera placement.
- Illustrate microphone placement for on-location audio.
- Demonstrate on-location lighting techniques.
- Illustrate on-location production communication.
- Define multiple-camera production.
- Define single-camera production.
- Define film-style dramatic production.

**COMMITTEE-IDENTIFIED ACADEMIC SKILLS**

The SkillsUSA national technical committee has identified that the following academic skills are embedded in the Video Production training program and assessment:

**Math Skills**

- Measure angles.
- Apply transformations (rotate or turn, reflect or flip, translate or slide, and dilate or scale) to geometric figures.
- Find the slope of a line.

**Science Skills**

- Use knowledge of mechanical, chemical and electrical energy.
- Use knowledge of heat, light and sound energy.
- Use knowledge of temperature scales, heat and heat transfer.
- Use knowledge of sound and technological applications of sound waves.
- Use knowledge of the nature and technological applications of light.
- Use knowledge of static electricity, current electricity and circuits.

**Language Arts Skills**

- Demonstrate use of such verbal communication skills as word choice, pitch, feeling, tone and voice.
- Analyze mass media messages.

**CONNECTIONS TO NATIONAL STANDARDS**

State-level academic curriculum specialists identified the following connections to national academic standards.

**Math Standards**

- Numbers and operations
- Geometry
- Measurement

- Data analysis and probability
- Problem solving
- Communication
- Connections
- Representation

**Source:** *NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics*. For more information, visit:  
[www.nctm.org](http://www.nctm.org).

#### **Science Standards**

- Understands the structure and properties of matter.
- Understands the sources and properties of energy.
- Understands forces and motion.
- Understands the nature of scientific inquiry.
- Understands the scientific enterprise.

#### **Language Arts Standards**

- Students adjust their use of spoken, written and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.
- Students employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.
- Students conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions and by posing problems. They gather, evaluate and synthesize data from a variety of sources (e.g., print and nonprint texts, artifacts, people) to communicate their discoveries in ways that suit their purpose and audience.
- Students use spoken, written and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion and the exchange of information).

**Source:** *IRA/NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts*. To view the standards, visit:  
[www.ncte.org/standards](http://www.ncte.org/standards).