Storyboards – Key Knowledge

A storyboard is a pre-production document.

They are made during the planning stage of a product's development.

1. What products are scripts used for?

Storyboards show the action that will take place on screen. They are used for:

- TV shows
- films
- other video (adverts, YouTube etc…)
- animations
- cut scenes in computer games (the scripted bit that's always the same and links two parts of the game together)

2. Purposes of Storyboards:

- let the **director** see how the sections of the film will fit together
- show the action that will take place so that **actors** know
- show **camera operators** how to shoot each part of a film
- show **animators** and **editors** how to fit parts of the product together
- shows how long each sections should be so the product can be produced to the right length
- shows the **production crew** what equipment is needed for each scene

Possible audiences for storyboards are shown in **bold and underlined**.
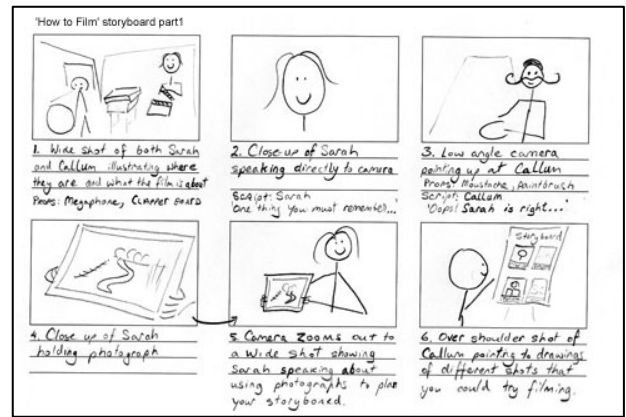
3. Things Storyboards Include:

- the number of scenes needed
- scene content - using sketches
- timings for each scene and scene numbers (to show the order they go in)
- camera shots, camera movement and camera angles
- lighting and sound information
- visual effects (such as fade, slo mo)
- locations (studio, indoor, outdoor)
- titles

4. How Storyboards Work

Storyboards are visual - they use images to show what will happen in a product.
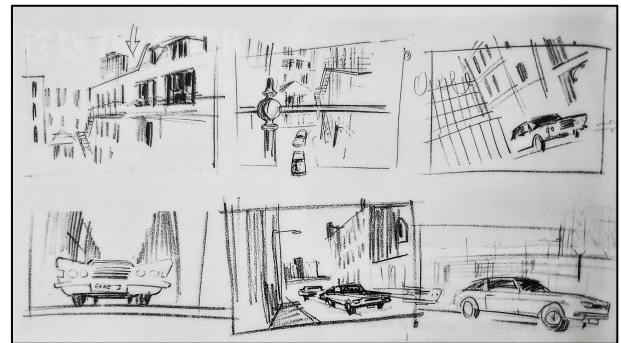
This means:

- it's easy for people to see what's going to happen in each scene so they can visualise what the product is supposed to look like
- it's easier for people to understand images than it would be if they were just using text

Famous directors like Steven Spielberg use storyboards for all their movies

Storyboards mean that everyone knows in advance what's required for each shot and how the shots fit together

This means that filming the final product is a lot quicker because it's already been planned - which saves time and money (making movies is expensive!)

5. Making Storyboards:

Storyboards are usually made by hand and then scanned into a computer if necessary.

They can be produced digitally using:

- Graphics software such as Photoshop
- Illustration software
- Desktop Publishing software

These methods will usually involve the artist using a graphics tablet or touchscreen.

Storyboards are a specialised type of product. They DO NOT using office software or online tools - so answers saying PowerPoint or Word will be marked wrong