# EVALUATION



During my pre production process and finalising my final idea for my short film I did indeed decide to do some research. In general terms of research I made sure to find out the typical genre conventions of horror and thrillers to make sure that I could then produce a film that would easily be recognised as one of this genre. Examples such as lighting, music, character choice etc. go a long way. Along with this another type of research I did was creating a moodboard of different tv series and movies in which I wanted to take inspiration from. Having this moodboard really allowed me to understand the concept of the film I wanted to make, also I was able to analyse the similarities between the shows,  movies as well as differences to make mine authentic and creative but still follows the storyline of a sci fi horror/thriller narrative so that it is easy for the audience to understand. In addition to this I created a costume ideas board in which I researched the classic and stereotypical colours and types of clothing that each character could wear depending on their role in the film. For example the main character which is the protagonist (Lilliana Wright) would wear something that flaunts her as innocence and femininity. By putting her in a flowy sundress this implies her girlish traits and also indicates at her age. The dress could suggest that she is either a teenager or a young adult. The colour of the dresses connotes the idea that she is innocent and pure. Lastly I researched into two short films and one successful movie to understand how to make a good film by also using some techniques I noticed in some of them. The films I researched were 'Okay Google' created by Levi Morgan (uploaded to Youtube on 2nd April 2019), 'tExt' by Tye Gibson and Nick Johnson (uploaded to Youtbe on 27th November 2017) and 'Her' directed by Spike Jonze starring Joaquin Phoenix, Amy Adams and Scarlett Johansson (released 18th December 2013). This was beneficial because I was able to

understand why one was money making and successful whilst how one did not get the same recognition. In my final work it is evident that the use of my research was beneficial, for one understanding concepts of horror helped me style my idea into a thriller film. Furthermore creating the mood board benefited me in the setting/location of where I wanted to shoot and in my final film (Gotcha) the location was a success. My moodboard was definitely a good addition but I did go in a completely different path from it, the depiction of the main

character was altered to someone who was sort of a neutral person who didn't really exert innocence and purity therefore there was no need to dress her like it. Finally the film case studies helped me significantly, I was able to take inspiration from them especially through camera ang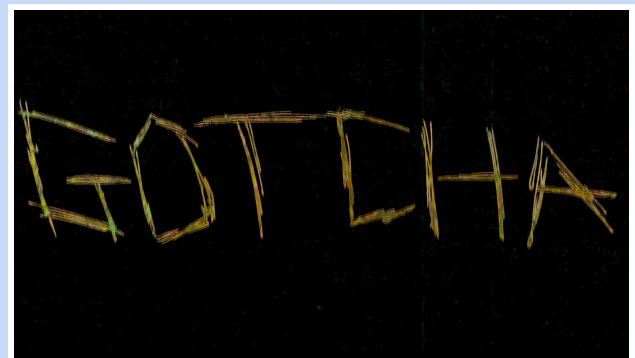les, music and lighting. Overall throughout the whole process of filming my partner (Dil Awaiz) and I were quite good on time, diligent and organised. We had made sure to already start filming a rough cut within the first two weeks this task was assigned, it really did help in which we were able to refilm scenes we didn't like without worrying about being close to the deadline. Also we were able to receive feedback quite promptly thus giving us more insight in our editing and filming. Personally I believe that we were quite organised with time management and wouldn't change that much except for perhaps the editing. Potentially if the film was edited more efficiently it could allow us to experiment more with different audios (diegetic and nondiegetic sounds) but in fairness we still had enough time to mess around with different clips for various parts of the film such as the ending. Some other pre-production I did that benefited me was creating a screenplay , shot script, and equipment list. Essentially the creation of a screenplay is quite straightforward when being helpful, this allows me to keep on track with what the characters should say and use time efficiently. Although when actually filming I changed my idea and focused on more partners, the reasoning behind this was because it was more logical and made more sense to make. We did use elements of my original film along with the basis of her idea to create an authentic and original film. To improve my screenplay I think I could have been more creative within dialogue and focus on mentioning a lot more on the actions of the characters. This would have shown the characters intentions clearer which then would allow the audience to depict their motives more. Secondly the shot script helped in terms of making sure to have creative shots in our final film, it definitely helped because I think some of our shots are not average looking and really create an effect to the scenes. I do think I could have illustrated the shot types better

because it can be quite unclear what angle is what if my description wasn't included. Finally the equipment list really benefited me in terms of understanding what equipment was best to use and explaining why it was, I think I could've gone into a bit more depthy in why each one was useful but I did believe that I presented a sufficient amount of evidence. In conclusion in summarising by pre production I do feel like I was very well prepared in terms of what mine had included. I made sure that it was straightforward and that everything was evident, although I do believe that my pre production was indeed detailed I think it could've been more in depth and more thorough. This would have shown my preparation was at a higher standard and therefore creates a parallel to a realistic situation in the real film and media industry.

Throughout the whole process of the creation of Gotcha, I was focused on more of the editing but still being a part of the cinematography process. Both my partner and I would always attend the dates where we shot the scenes to make sure that we both approved of the different camera angles and also to help each other. While one was filming from one side of the set the other one was directing or also filming at the same time using a different camera. I think a big contribution also on my part was the location choice, using my house as the set but making sure that it was designed and set up in a way which would match the

mood of our film. But mainly directing my energy towards creative camera shots and editing the final film. During filming both of us (Dil Awaiz and I) made sure to work together as much as possible, listening to each other's opinions and ideas making sure that we were able to produce something at a high level. Overall we both helped each other within that aspect but again I think that I helped in suggesting creative camera angles and making



sure to edit the final film in a manner which highlighter our ability to create a thriller film to the best of our abilities. In my opinion I do think I had a positive impact on the production of the film, my attitude was very focused and determined to stay on track even through the filming process and editing. Also I do think as partners our effort was really good, we showed each other how our passion in producing a good standard of film. I think our ethics and determination could not have been better, I think we put a lot of effort in it and made sure to manage our time well. If I were to improve anything it would be maybe keeping more contact while editing even though we still were in touch quite frequently we could

potentially have more. In general during production I think I did quite well and this is my area of strength in media, I personally believe that filming and directing is quite well suited for me whilst still working as a team and being able to communicate and discuss others input. I don't think that I am necessarily the worst at editing but I could definitely learn from this project and improve. Understanding different concepts of editing styles and making sure to match that with the clips was quite challenging and I had to make sure to be completely focused during this process.

To conclude the whole process of the film I think that it turned out quite nicely and I am pleased with the outcome, it definitely did meet the original intention in which there was a flair of individuality in the piece. It was pretty creative in terms of the different camera angles and the sound choice, the audience are able to catch on quickly to the main idea while still being hooked onto it and not losing interest. Also to an extent it is aesthetically pleasing with the colours contrasting well within the set, having a simplistic design and following a clean cut white setting. It does follow some of the genre conventions in terms of lighting and significance of the colours the actress wore along with music choice and nondiegetic sounds. Many of my family members have watched the film and thoroughly enjoyed it and found it quite interesting as well as some of my friends finding it extremely impressive with the lack of a budget. Overall I feel like this has helped me understand how to adapt different peoples ideas and find a middle ground whilst still being able to show your own creativity and individuality in a group setting. It has given me more experience in the editing world by understanding how to make a bunch of random pieces of footage have meaning. I do think that the areas that we could have improved on are maybe being more ambitious in terms of location and lighting, that would have definitely made the film much more pleasing to the eye. Although I am still very pleased with the final outcome.