

# Interviews

**ChargeUp! April 2013**

# Preparing for interview

- [ Contacting and making arrangements with the guest(s)
- [ Choosing a location
- [ Preparing equipment
- [ Traveling to the location and setting up
- [ Final briefing and technical checks

# Interview structure

- [ The interviewer is the facilitator. (S)he chooses the topic of conversation, asks questions and guides the discussion.
- [ The guest is the subject of the interview. (S)he will do most of the talking and get most of the camera shots.
- [ The viewer is a silent observer who has been invited into the conversation.

# Interview Terminology

## IV Interview

**Guest** The person being interviewed.

**One-Shot** Shot of a single person, either interviewer or guest. Usually a mid-shot or tighter.

**Two-Shot** Shot of two people, e.g. interviewer and guest.

**Back-Cut Question** Shot of the interviewer asking a question, shown from the other side of the guest.

**Noddy** Shot of the interviewer nodding or showing an appropriate facial expression.



One Eye:  
Too much profile

Two Eyes:  
Acceptable

# Framing

# (MS) Mid Shot

Guest or Subject  
Interviewer





# (MCU) Medium Close Up

Halfway between MS and CU



# (CU) Close Up

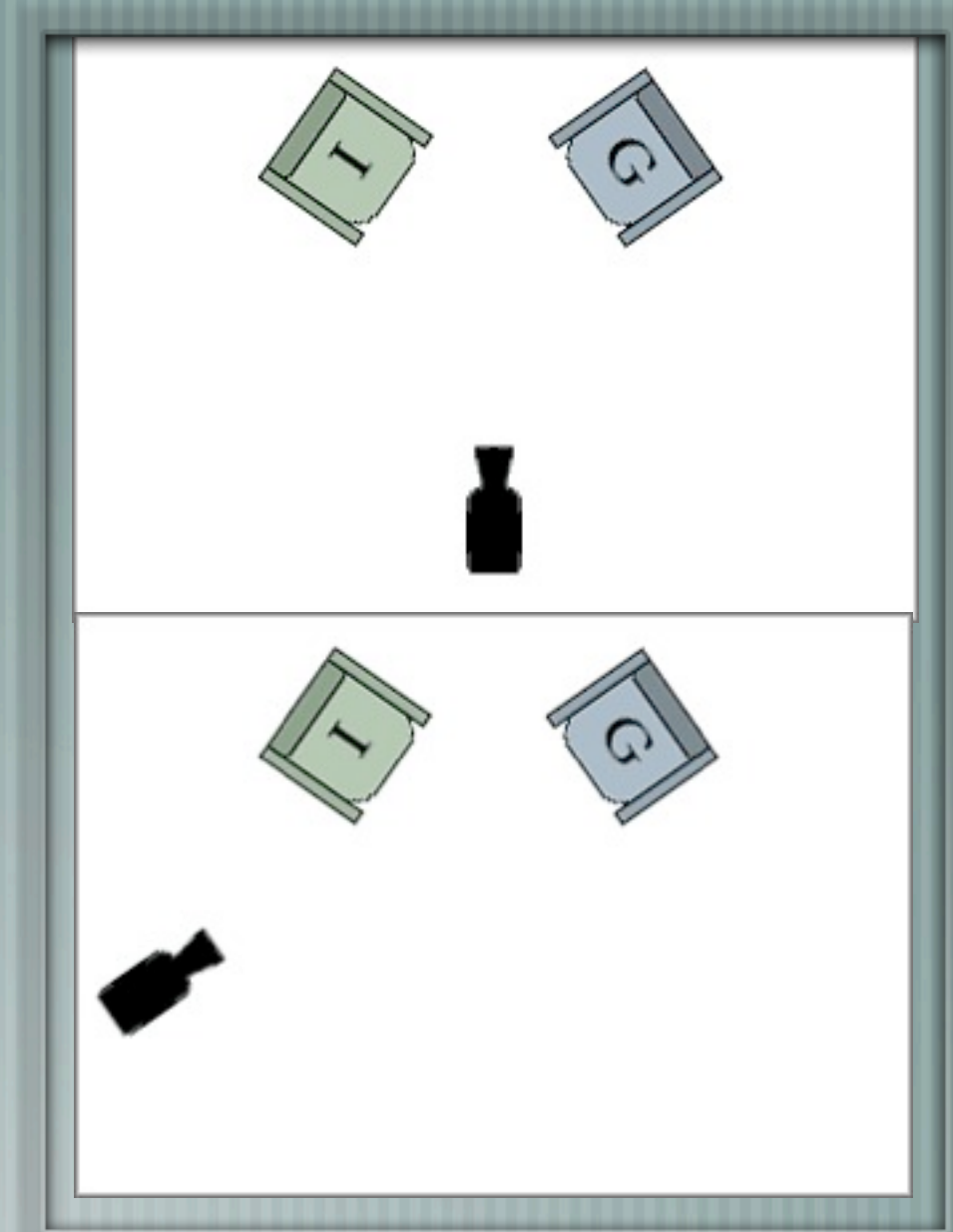
On subject when talking about  
something personal  
-same emotional space





# Interview Settings

1 Guest, 1 Camera



# Composition

- [ Location, lighting, framing, props
- [ Relevant Backgrounds
- [ Eyelines-consistent and not give unwanted message  
(dominant or submissive)

# Editing the interview

— [ Establishing Shot    A very wide shot which shows the location.

— [ 2-Shot    A visual introduction to both interview participants. Usually a WS or MCU.

— [ 1-Shot    Begin concentrating on the guest with an MCU and overlay name/title key.

— [ Questions & Noddies    Interviewer is occasionally shown asking and responding to questions.

— [ Cutaways    When appropriate, relevant cutaways can be dropped in.

# Cutting

- [ Cut a little before or after a question
- [ If live, don't chase, allow for reactions
- [ Back cut-Same questions, position and eyelines
- [ Noddies to provide reaction and edit points

# A few more things

- [ Record intro with countdown 5,4,3,(silent)...2,1 (start)
- [ At the end, pause and don't move.
- [ Looking room and facing direction



# Vox Pops

- [ Vox Populi-Voice of the people
- [ Snapshot of public opinion
- [ Simple questions. Make them comfortable
- [ Fast, short, sharp standard questions. “Would you mind answering some questions on traffic jams for TV1?”
- [ Open ended and avoid leading questions

# Vox Pops

- [ MCU or CU
- [ Looking Direction, equal left and right facing
- [ Mix of genders, age, race

# Sound

—— [ Record it properly!

# Lighting

- [ Light properly
- [ If outside, reflectors if necessary

# How to Shoot

- [ Don't do the Interview first

- Don't just interview and hope for sound bites

- [ Know the STORY

- What's it about? Who are the characters?

- [ Shoot the STORY

- May use to get reaction from characters



# If not enough time?

— [ Focus on the answers