

## How Do a Director's Artistic Decisions Affect You?

### Core Competency: Communicating Information

Pick an approximately three- to five-minute scene from any narrative, scripted, live-action film that you have access to watch. How does the director use *mise en scène*, cinematography, editing, and sound to advance the story in this scene and communicate with you? How do these decisions affect you? To answer these questions, watch the scene from the film three times.

As you watch, consider these points:

- The first time, focus on the story. What happens in the scene?
- The second time, pay attention to the *mise en scène* and cinematography. How does the filmmaker manipulate *mise*

*en scène* and cinematography to depict the time period, location, and story? Consider color, light, scenery, costumes, and makeup for *mise en scène*, as well as how close and far away the camera is to the characters and how the camera moves for cinematography.

- The third time, pay attention to editing and sound. How does the filmmaker manipulate editing and sound to depict the time period, location, and story? Consider how shots are joined and what is going on in the two shots that are joined when the transitions occur for editing, as well as how the music, voices, and noises change as the action does for sound.