

BROADCAST NEWS ON TELEVISION

Directions: Watch clips of NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams. Look over the terminology and make connections. Apply the terms to what you see.

B-Roll – video that is shot for a TV news story and used to visualize the script the reporter/anchor has written.

Natural Sound - aka Nat Sound, Nat S-O-T, or Ambient Sound - Background voices, music, machinery, waterfalls, and other environmental sounds that are recorded on-scene and used to create a sound bed for a recorded or live report. Primarily used for setting a mood or providing atmosphere for a report. This technique is frequently overused, but when used properly it adds immeasurably to a story.

Live shot/Live Report – A TV news story during which a news anchor or reporter is live at a remote location. Within this report can be included a SOT, VO/SOT or PKG.

On-Set Appearance – Reporter appears on set and is introduced by a news anchor. The reporter can then introduce his/her news package or report his/her story from there.

Package (PKG) - A report from a correspondent that contains a sound bite inserted between the introduction and the epilogue (usually inserted after the reporter's second or third sentence). These need an in-studio lead for the anchor.

Sound bite (SOT) - edited slice of a newsmaker speaking. Similar to actuality in radio except the person can be seen.

Stand-up – part of package with reporter on screen reading/presenting information.

Voiceover (VO) – A TV news story during which a news anchor or reporter reads a script live as video is played.

Voiceover-to-sound(VO/SOT) – A TV news story during which a news anchor or reporter reads a script live as video is played up to a place when a news maker video/audio sound bite is played. At the end of the SOT, the reporter or anchor resumes reading with or without additional video.

