

13.

ON-SET COLLABORATION

“Everybody’s there doin’ the same job...You’re no better than the guy that’s sweepin’ the floor at night when you leave. Just remember that.”

—Samuel L. Jackson

SUBCHAPTERS

- The On-Set Environment
- Be Punctual and Prepared
- It’s Acting, Not Living
- Help the Editor Do Their Job
- Make the Set Inclusive
- Be Nice to Everyone
- What Not to Do

CHAPTER REVIEW

Over the course of his career, Sam has realized that it truly takes a village to make a movie set work and that his contribution is just as important as everyone else’s. In some ways, the actors are the least important part of the process. Sam always makes an effort to build respectful relationships with everyone on-set and let his level of preparedness be a model for the rest of the cast.

The rules for on-set behavior are simple: arrive early, know your lines, don’t waste people’s time, and don’t overstep the boundaries of your role. Fight the impulse to think that your contribution as “the talent” means more than the contribution of the crew, your fellow cast members, or the PAs. Remember that everybody is working toward the same goal.

TAKE IT FURTHER

- Do you have any on-set experience? Share your stories in [The Hub](#) for your classmates and talk about the positive/negative behaviors you’ve encountered. Analyze what the person behaving negatively could have done instead to contribute to a positive environment. If you haven’t experienced a set before, find a local production and ask to join the crew. Share your adventures with your classmates.

