

## Common Filmmaking Problems

- **SLOPPY COMPOSITION** - Framing the shots carefully is crucial. Before you press record, make sure the shot is composed using the rule of thirds and the actors have adequate headroom.



- **INADEQUATE LIGHTING** - Check that your character isn't backlit.



- **POOR SOUND** - Often there are sounds – like refrigerators or air conditioners – that your ears don't pick up but can ruin the quality of your audio. Perform a few tests with the actors. The sound of their voice should be clearly audible above any ambient noise. Poor audio quality is very difficult to fix in post-production. Using close ups like those shown above necessarily means you have to get the camera and the microphone close to the actors.



- **DISTRACTING BACKGROUND** - Make sure there isn't anything distracting in the background or any trees growing from the character's head.



- **DISCLAIMER** - Sometimes you can break these rules for artistic/dramatic effect.

