

## Section 1: Television Series Information

### Group Members:



### Title:

- *Schooled*
- The title is a play on the phrase “Elementary” which is the catch phrase of Sherlock Holmes. In the series, we follow a modern day Watson and Sherlock duo except there is a twist. Our protagonist (Walt) is a college student who has Schizophrenia which makes him hallucinate about a detective figure that only he can see. The hallucination (named Shawn) is a master detective but he only exists in Walt’s head. The series deals with Walt trying to handle college, his mental disorder and solving mysteries going on across his campus.

### Genre:

- Drama
- This series is meant to bring light to what it means to have a mental disorder while also dealing with college culture.

### Synopsis

- Walt, the protagonist, is a 20-year-old college student who has recently been diagnose with schizophrenia. This story takes place in current day Philadelphia where Walt is currently enrolled in college. The story begins with Walt in a hospital after he has been diagnosed with schizophrenia. As we follow Walt learning how to deal with his condition, he begins to hallucinate of a man like him but with a more dramatic personality. This man is Shawn, a figment of Walt’s imagination that has a strong desire to solve mysteries throughout the campus. Overtime Walt starts to lose control of his reality and Shawn starts to take over. The series follows Walt’s internal conflict with Shawn trying to live a normal life with this internal voice always following.

## Section 2: Character Biography

### Character Name:

- Walt/Shawn

### Physical:

- Walt is defined as a 20 years old white male. Average college student body, with green eyes and dirty blonde hair. He doesn't dress the like the hottest guy in school. More of hoodie/nerdy shirt type of guy wearing jeans. This plain style is to contrast with the alter ego of Shawn. They are played by the same actor so all their physical features are the same. The difference between Walt and Shawn is how the dress and how the present themselves. Shawn dresses more intense, he is always seen wearing dark jeans and a black leather jacket. Hair slicked back and sometimes seen wearing black sunglasses. He is meant to look like a punk bad boy who seems above the law. Since he is a figment of Walt's imagination, his outfit never changes and never ages. Even though they are two different characters, their physical aspects are the same.

### Personality:

- Walt is a quiet person. Ever since he was diagnosed as a schizophrenic, he has isolated himself from the world and since then the hallucinations have only become stronger. He still tries to be a good student in school but he is struggling to find a social life. The voice in his head has recently manifested into a personality. He is constantly trying to keep reality and his hallucinations separate. Because of this he is a very quiet person and he is constantly dealing with his mental struggles.

### Life Experiences:

- **Event 1: Diagnosed with schizophrenia at 20**
  - Stress and depression brought around by school has developed into a case schizophrenia. Since the beginning of school, he has been noticing visions and hallucinating. As time goes on they have gotten more intense to the point that it's hard to tell what's real and what's made up.
- **Event 2: Older Sister Raped while in College**
  - This creates a driving force for Walt to seek justice on campus. Shawn is the Manifestation of this desire. Walt is close to his siblings but being the youngest child makes him feel inferior. He desires to do more in this world.
- **Event 3: College far from home**
  - Walt left his family and friends going to college in Philadelphia. He has had a hard time making friends so he mainly just focuses on school. The lack of a social life plays a big role in the story. Walt feels like an outsider at school.

### Current Situation:

- Walt is having a bad time. He is starting to lose his grip on reality and is getting stressed with his personal life and school. He is currently living on his college campus where he goes to class every day. His roommate thinks he is a nut because Walt is constantly talking to this imaginary person that only he sees. Now Walt has begun to solve small

crimes on campus but he is starting to get too involved. He is trying to back out but his hallucinations Shawn is forcing him to continue.

## Section 3: Character Inspiration

### Character Inspiration 1:

- Dennis Reynolds: *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*
- Dennis is an interesting character that shows different levels of sanity and that is what I was looking at when creating the imaginary character of Shawn. You are never sure what Dennis will do next, he is a loose cannon. He will hunt a goal to completion even if violence is involved. Dennis also is shown to have some sort of mental illness. He is anti-social, narcissistic and has some sort of personality disorder.

### Character Inspiration 2:

- Sherlock Holmes: *Sherlock*
- Sherlock is a detective that solves crimes with his partner Watson. This dynamic is key to the detective story. Sherlock never solves a crime for monetary reason, he is always in it for the challenge of solving the case. He is impulsive. Once he starts a case, he will see it through till the bitter end. He is wise and acts all knowing, which makes him look like a jack-ass most of the time. The story is normally told from Watson's point of view which is similar to what is happening in our series. The story is told from Walt's point of view.

### Character Inspiration 3:

- Fonzie: *Happy Days*
- Fonzie inspired the look of our character Shawn. Fonzie is the coolest guy around and everyone wants to be him. He is a bad-ass that has the most power in whatever room he is in. He isn't a follower, he is the leader and people go to him for help. Fonzie also interacts with his environment in a unique way. Whether is snapping his finger to make ladies appear or hitting things with his fist. This wild reality is similar to how Walt's Hallucinations seem unworldly. Shawn is the Fonzie of this world.

## **Section 4: Filming Techniques and Explanations**

### **Technique 1: High Angle Shot**

- Show that Shawn is in power and Walt is losing control in this situation. Walt is sitting looking up at Shawn. He is losing control of his reality and his hallucinations are starting to manifest into reality. This type of shot helps show the hierarchy of the scene, who is in control and who is driving the scene. We are looking down on Walt which makes him seem weak. This describes his character now. He is not in control of his schizophrenia and it is starting to consume him.

### **Technique 2: Dutch Angle/Low Angle Shot – 20 – 28 seconds**

- We decided to make this shot of Shawn a Low Angle shot that is also on a Dutch angle for many reasons. It shows that something is off with this situation. Shawn is in power here, but he is also just a figment of Walt's imagination. This manifestation is demanding control which seems out of place and makes us question the reality of the show.

### **Technique 3: Ambient noise – 0-34 seconds**

- There is a storm going on in the background which represents what is going on in Walt's head. Ambient noise can show the emotions of the scene. There is a power shift and the person in charge now is a figment of someone's imagination. Storms represent chaos and confusion. It's also a play of LA Noir which also has a lot of crimes in the rain.