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camera, n.

Pronunciation: Brit. /'kɑm(ə)rə/, U.S. /'kæm(ə)rə/

Frequency (in current use):

Inflections: Plural *cameras*, (*rare*, chiefly in sense 3) *camerae*.

Origin: A borrowing from Latin, combined with an English element. **Etymons:** Latin *camera*, CAMERA OBSCURA n.

Etymology: < classical Latin *camera* (see CHAMBER n.). For the Romance reflexes of the Latin noun, and borrowings of it into other Germanic languages, see CHAMBER n. In sense 4a, short for CAMERA OBSCURA n. Sense 4b shows a development from sense 4a, and is only paralleled later in other European languages; compare French *caméra* (1900 denoting a device for taking photographs; < English; compare earlier *caméra camera lucida*: see CAMERA LUCIDA n. 2; 1838; < Latin), German *Kamera* (1893 as *Camera*), Italian *camera* (1942), etc.

In early use (before the 18th cent.), the word is not naturalized, and is chiefly restricted to foreign contexts (as in sense 1) or to the specialist language of architecture (as in sense 2). In the 18th and especially the 19th cent., it gained wider currency due to widespread interest first in the camera obscura, and later in photography.

1.

a. The department of the papal Curia dealing with finance; the papal treasury. Cf. CHAMBER n. 3.

- 1566 J. BARTHLET *Pedegrewe Heretiques* f. 46, Their [sc. the Popistes'] Camera and Consistorie, which is their stage.
- 1599 R. ALLOTT *Wits Theater Little World* f. 254, The Popes Camera, or Eschequer, is lyke vnto the Sea, whereinto all Riuers doe run, and yet it ouerfloweth not.
- 1671 J. GAILHARD *Present State Princes Italy* (new ed.) 43 A Cardinal being the Head of it, for which the Camera allows him 1000 Crowns a year.
- 1692 M. MORGAN *Poem Late Victory* 20 Into the Camera they pay their Fees, Have in return, Pardons and Jubilees.
- a1713 M. GEDDES *Several Tracts against Popery* (1715) 170 There are undoubtedly great Sums of Money paid upon every renewing, to the Papal Camera.
- 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & Ital. Islands* III. 114 The Camera or Treasury, whose president, the Camerlengo, is assisted by the Auditor, the Treasurer-general, and Assessors.
- 1891 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* 8 429 They [sc. minor penitentiaries]..evidently were expected to impose pecuniary penances for the benefit of the camera.
- 1941 *Amer. Hist. Rev.* 46 883 As time went on and the *camera* gained experience, the mandatory levy superseded the subsidy.
- 2006 R. B. EKELUND et al. *Marketplace of Christianity* v. 94 In the case of the Roman Catholic Church,..the curia and cardinals are upstream directors of various functions including a financial division collecting revenues called the papal camera (treasury).

†**b.** A chamber in which a deliberative, judicial, or legislative body meets.

Also: a deliberative or legislative body. Cf. CHAMBER n. 4a, 4b *Obs.*

Chiefly in non-English-speaking contexts.

- 1658 T. BROMHALL *Hist. Apparitions* 136 The Judges commanded that she should touch the woman that was troubled with the charm, which is done very often by the Judges of Germany in the Imperial Camera.
- 1689 N. BACON *Hist. & Polit. Disc. Laws & Govt. Eng.* 19 This Camera [*sc.* the Star Chamber], as I said, was the place of the joynt meeting of the Council, as well of those of the Chancery and Benches, as of those that attended upon matters of State.
- 1712 *London Gaz.* 5068/1 A Declaration read..by the Secretary of the Camera.
- 1778 W. J. MICKLE tr. L. de Camoens *Lusiad* (ed. 2) App. p. ccxxxiii/2 The Municipal Court, under the name of Senate of the *Camera*.

2. An arched or vaulted roof, chamber, or building. Also more generally: any room or chamber.

Freq. in the names of (parts of) buildings.

- 1633 A. MUNDAY et al. *Stow's Surv. of London* (new ed.) 781 In this Camera, or arch'd and vaulted Structure..this H. the second..did keepe, or was supposed to have kept, that Jewell of his heart, faire Rosamond.
- 1708 J. KERSEY *Dict. Anglo-Britannicum* *Camera*, (L.) a vaulted or arched Building, an Upper Chamber, or Gallery.
- 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia Minor* liv. 182 They [*sc.* the sepulchres] consist mostly of a single camera, or vault.
- 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. from Continental Countries* I. 343 The Camera, or Chamber, adjoining the body of the church, contains ten large frescoes by Raphael.
- 1861 *Chambers's Encycl.* II. 703/1 In later times the camerae were frequently lined with plates of glass.
- 1887 *Amer. Jrnl. Archaeol. & Hist. Fine Arts* 3 504 Convocation at Oxford voted the following grants:..£730 for additional accommodation at the Bodleian Library and the Radcliffe Camera [*etc.*].
- 1911 J. A. ROBINSON *Abbot's House at Westm.* IV. 82 There was some building, forming a continuation of the Camera and providing the means of passing from the newel staircase to the Camera.
- 1996 A. EMERY *Greater Medieval Houses* 77/2 The upper floor was a well-windowed camera, possibly partitioned, with garderobe and vaulted closet.

3. A (small) chamber or cavity in a mechanism, a part of the body, a shell, etc.

- 1664 *Minute* 6 Jan. (Hooke Folio Online) 9 Mr. H[ooke] was desired to take care that the Instrument for the measure of time consisting of one only wheel with hollow cameras in it..be made.
- 1683 *Philos. Trans.* (Royal Soc.) 13 34 It was not one, but many Stomacks; for the cavity is divided by several tranverse membranes, into divers distinct Camera's.
- 1721 tr. D. Laurentius *Compend. Anat* 216 The Humours for Refracting the Rays of Light are three, viz. The Aqueous, filling each Camera of the Eye [*etc.*].
- 1796 *Anat. Dialogues* (ed. 4) ii. 107 One part is expanded on the inmost camera of the ear.
- 1863 *Boston Jrnl. Nat. Hist.* 7 536 A transverse horizontal membrane, which divides each of the four quadrant camerae of the disc into two superposed spaces.
- 1921 *Jrnl. Sci. Lab. Denison Univ.* 19 263 This specimen [of a conch] consists of the living chamber with 11 camerae and part of a twelfth camera still attached.
- 1991 R. GOLDRING *Fossils in Field* iv. 77 If lithification was early, only the body chamber was filled with loose sediment, and the camerae (unless damaged) remained available for possible sparry fill.

4.

†a. Short for CAMERA OBSCURA *n.* *Obs.*

- 1734 *Philos. Trans.* 1733–4 (Royal Soc.) 38 196 This Camera has several Advantages beyond the common one; for in this, Objects as big as the Life may be taken.
- 1760 L. STERNE *Life Tristram Shandy* I. xxiii. 171 Others..will make a drawing of you in the Camera.
- 1786 *Daily Universal Reg.* 15 Apr. 1/1 The difficulties justly complained of in both the camera and delineator, namely, the double reflection, which rendered them almost useless.
- 1816 *Monthly Mag.* Aug. 614/1 The Sultan got up, and went twice into the camera; I covered him with the baize all the while that he amused himself in contemplating the objects transmitted by it.
- 1878 M. FOSTER *Text Bk. Physiol.* (ed. 2) III. ii. 397 The eye is a camera.

b. A device for taking photographs, using an aperture or lens to focus a visual image on to a light-sensitive material or (in later use) a digital sensor (cf. *digital camera n.* at DIGITAL *n.* and *adj.* Special uses 2).

colour, digital, film, pinhole camera, etc.: see the first element.

- 1840 *Times* 25 Aug. 4/5 Mr. Walcott also claims..the honour of adapting the substitution of reflectors for the camera, and thus reducing the length of the sitting to the short space of four to five minutes.
- 1859 G. A. SALA *Twice round Clock* 111 He throws the curtain of the camera over his head.
- 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 363/1 The camera reveals to us the presence of stars which the human eye has not seen.
- 1948 N. COWARD *Diary* 22 Dec. (2000) 116 The..young man rushed at me and kissed me firmly and a Press photographer clicked his camera.
- 1984 J. PARTRIDGE *One Touch Photogr.* 22 When the weather is bright or you have loaded a faster film the camera selects faster speeds and smaller apertures.
- 2008 *N.Y. Times* (National ed.) 3 Apr. C1/1 A typical shirt-pocket camera, if you're lucky, can snap one photo a second.

c. A device for capturing moving pictures or video signals, typically through the storage of a series of images in quick succession on photographic film, videotape, or in digital form. Cf. CAMCORDER *n.*, WEBCAM *n.*

cine-, movie, television, video camera, etc.: see the first element.

- 1919 *Outing* Mar. 289/3, I had a vague suspicion of how a camera worked. I had looked at several hundred feet of film in the cutting room.
- 1931 *Movie Makers* Feb. 81/1 Sound proof booths were used and in them the cameras and cameramen were locked.
- 1969 *Times* 16 July 4/1 The television pictures to be relayed back to earth will be taken by a camera fixed on a special attachment.
- 1981 J. MONACO *How to read Film* (rev. ed.) ii. 70 A director can change focus during a shot either to maintain focus on a subject moving away from or toward the camera.
- 1996 *Web Techniques* Aug. 75/2 You output the stream from the camera into the board and the board digitizes both video and audio files.

2007 *Daily Tel.* 30 Apr. 2/3 Lollipop wardens in Oxford are to have cameras fitted to the brims of their hats to film abusive motorists.

PHRASES

the camera loves (a person or thing): used to indicate that a person or thing is photogenic or shows to advantage on film.

- 1910 *Washington Post* 23 Oct. (Mag. section) 10/1 The camera loves a pretty woman.
- 1957 *Lima (Ohio) News* 27 July 9/4 He'd look at the rushes and she was wonderful: something came across on the screen that he had never seen while playing with her. He said, 'The camera loves her.'
- 1984 *Times* 24 Sept. 8/2 She has a face the camera loves. Photographers say it's a marvellous, rewarding face.
- 2005 T. MANCUSO *Dog People do it Better* iii. 63 Sunny stands out, for he is the biggest poser and the camera loves him. He could have been a model.

COMPOUNDS

camera angle *n.* the point or direction from which an object is photographed or filmed; cf. **ANGLE** *n.*² 9a.

- 1919 *Oakland (Calif.) Tribune* 6 Apr. (Mag.) 2/6 When it was all over I learned I hadn't been in the scene at all —(the 'camera angle' didn't include my table.
- 1968 A. DIMENT *Great Spy Race* viii. 151 You could see what was happening from two camera angles.
- 2004 *Sci. Amer.* Jan. 92/1 The stripe looks as if it is painted on the turf: when the camera angle changes, it stays in proper skew.

camera booth *n.* now *hist.* a movable soundproof box with a glass front, in which a film camera is enclosed to prevent the noise of its mechanism intruding on the soundtrack of a film.

- 1927 *Ogden (Utah) Standard-Examiner* 6 Sept. 4/5 The sound-proof camera booth used in the vitaphone synchronization of Al Jolson's..new picture, 'The Jazz Singer'.
- 1999 J. MULLARKEY *New Bergson* 214 By 1931, all studios were using Mitchell news cameras in blimps, and the camera-booth virtually disappeared overnight.

camera crew *n.* a team of people concerned with the technical aspects of recording a film or television programme.

- 1911 *Eau Claire (Wisconsin) Leader* 26 Jan. 2/2 It may interest many people to see how a moving picture is made by an expert camera crew.
- 1999 *Bingo Link* Oct. 3/3 The camera crew followed the judges around the country for the regional heats.

camera eye *n.* the ability to record or recall detailed impressions of what one sees with photographic accuracy; (also) a person capable of unusually detailed or detached observation.

- 1908 *Oakland (Calif.) Tribune* 30 Apr. 12/5 (*headline*) 'Man with the camera eye' will prevent crooks from 'welcoming the fleet.'
- 1930 J. P. BURKE in *Amer. Mercury* Dec. 455/1 *Camera eye*, a retentive memory for faces. 'Put him on the door. He's camera eye.'
- 1960 *Guardian* 17 Nov. 8/2 The 'I' will be speaking, not an uninvolved camera eye, but a very much involved eye.
- 1997 *N.Y. Rev. Bks.* 6 Nov. 7/2 The documentary quality of his writing is on display on every page, and constantly pleasing not merely for..the camera eye he brings to bear on diverse contexts.

camera-eyed *adj.* possessing a camera eye.

- 1921 *Iowa City (Iowa) Press-Citizen* 27 July 4/7 From behind black masks the camera eyed detectives, the pick of the thief hunters, watch and study as the faces pass in single file.
- 1962 *Lowell (Mass.) Sun* 19 June 14/7 A cool, camera-eyed customer, he worked opposing hurlers for eight walks, reached on a fielder's choice and banged out a single.
- 2006 *Atlantic Monthly* Nov. 115 A Single Man, by Christopher Isherwood (1964)... Herr Issyvoov at his stark, camera-eyed best.

camera gun *n.* now *rare* a camera attached to a gun, arranged to record what the gun is aiming at when fired and typically used in the training of fighter pilots; cf. *gun-camera n.* at GUN *n.* Compounds 2.

- 1918 F. H. COLVIN *Aircraft Mech. Handbk.* xxii. 316 For machine-gun practice at enemy airplanes, the camera gun is..used.
- 1939 *War Illustr.* 2 Dec. 371 The first training of the gunners of fighting 'planes is given with a camera gun which registers on a photographic film the hits made by the gun.

cameraman *n.* a man who operates a camera professionally, now esp. in film or television.

- 1883 *Daily Nebraska State Jrnl.* 18 Dec. 2/2 He also sets up that in no sense is the camera man an author.
- 1912 C. MATHEWSON *Pitching in Pinch* x. 227 'Josh' got sore and framed it up to have a camera man at the park the next day to take a moving picture of a mob scene.
- 1998 *New Scientist* 21 Nov. 49/2 The various failures of the cameraman to film a female diderik cuckoo entering a lesser masked weaver's nest.

camera move *n.* *Film* a camera movement (cf. *camera movement n.* (a)).

- 1942 *Amer. Cinematogr.* May 235/2 The layout-man..figures out all of the camera moves such as..pans.

- 1991 *Blitz* Sept. 60/2 He's using very dramatic camera moves,..and he can get away with it because it is a thriller.
- 2006 *New Yorker* 6 Mar. 22/1 Curiously styled, with rap-video camera moves giving way to sensitive closeups, this reductive story of redemption milks the sentimentality..born of an extreme change of heart.

camera movement *n.* (a) *Film* (an instance of using) any of various techniques, such as zooming, panning, or tracking, which involve moving the camera or lens during a shot; (the use of) such techniques collectively; (b) *Photogr.* an adjustment of the position of the lens or film in a camera.

- 1929 *Chicago Tribune* 18 Aug. VII. 1/3 The audience will not be conscious of the camera movement.
- 1949 A. HUXLEY *Let.* 6 Mar. (1969) 593 Hitchcock..now shoots continuously a whole reel at a time,..getting the necessary close-ups and inserts..by camera movements and movement of the actors.
- 1975 *Bull. Assoc. for Preserv. Technol.* 7 39 The team could, with the proper use of camera movements, produce a rectified picture of the plane being photographed.
- 1991 *Photo Answers* Feb. 16/1 A plate camera..allows camera movements such as rising front so you can adjust the perspective and make the building look natural wherever you're shooting from.
- 1995 *Village Voice* (N.Y.) 7 Mar. 59/5 As much as the script, it's the aggressive but lyrical camera movement that accounts for much of the film's punch.
- 2005 *Cineaste* Spring 62/3 Godard was familiarly lauding 'friend Boris' for his 'art of stylization', his 'camera movements, in which grace vies spontaneously with precision'.

camera operator *n.* a cameraman or camerawoman; *spec.* a person who directly controls a film or television camera during filming, typically acting upon the instructions of the director or cinematographer.

- 1869 *Elyria (Ohio) Independent Democrat* 29 Sept. Having a camera operator whose skill as a copyist is surpassed by none, I am prepared to do your work.
- 1913 *Chautauquan* 7 June 8/1 Camera operators had also to be taught, likewise scenic artists and stage carpenters.
- 1947 L. A. SPOSA *Television Primer* ii. 14 The camera operator..has the responsibility of recording a sharp, well-composed image.
- 1991 *Canada Lutheran* Nov. 27/1 My camera operator..is a professional with a good eye. This means I could relax and concentrate on planning the shots.
- 2006 *Plain Dealer* (Cleveland, Ohio) (Nexis) 30 Aug. E1 The series seems to have been filmed by a camera operator with a perpetual case of the shakes.

camerapeople *n.* people who use cameras; *spec.* people who operate film or television cameras professionally.

- 1896 *Salem (Ohio) Daily News* 30 July 4/6 (*adv.*) This weather of camping parties, vacation trips, and day excursions is just right for Camera people.
- 1937 'C. McCABE' *Face on Cutting-room Floor* vii. 53 Vic took the meg and shouted something at the camera people.

2001 *BBC Wildlife* Sept. 2/3 The producers and camerapeople who have made *Blue Planet*..are among the luckiest people on Earth, having spent the past four years immersed in the sea.

cameraperson *n.* a person who uses a camera; *spec.* a person who operates a film or television camera professionally, a cameraman (now chiefly substituted as a gender-neutral term).

1903 *Washington Post* 2 July 6/6 Even as the hand is about to release the shutter away will stalk the whole flock as if familiarity with the camera person had bred disgust.

1920 *Daily Northwestern (Oshkosh, Wisconsin)* 3 July 6/5 Only yesterday I accidentally stepped on one of those camera persons.

1996 D. F. WALLACE *Supposedly Fun Thing* (1997) 181 The 2nd Asst. Cameraperson..fiddles complexly with the camera's anamorphic lens and various filters.

2004 I. McDONALD *River of Gods* (2005) xxii. 261 The news channel camerapersons spot the Prime Minister in combats and charge her.

camera phone *n.* (a) (as one word, usu. with capital initial) a device for synchronizing the projection of a cinematograph film with a soundtrack on gramophone records (now *hist.*); (b) a telephone (now usually a mobile phone) which incorporates a digital camera.

1907 *Moving Picture World* 22 June 250/1 The cameraphone, known as the 'talking pictures', opened Monday, June 10, at Hammerstein's and closed June 11.

1929 W. H. HAYS *See & Hear* 41 About 1908, Edison again turned his attention to the talking picture, this time with a device known as the Cameraphone which coupled a phonograph with a film projector by means of a wire belt. Making a Cameraphone picture was very simple.

1999 *Pop. Mech.* (Electronic ed.) Jan. 42 For our viewing pleasure, MicroDisplay hooked one camera phone to another and sent images across the displays.

2005 *Guardian* 26 Apr. I. 9/1 'Happy slappers'—a youth craze in which groups of teenagers armed with camera phones slap or mug unsuspecting children or passersby while capturing the attacks on 3g technology.

camera-ready *adj.* (a) (of a person) ready to be filmed or photographed; attractive, photogenic; (of a book, etc.) intended to be made into a film; (b) *Printing* (orig. in photo-offset printing, of a document) ready to be photographed (or digitally processed) for transferral to the printing plate.

1937 L. T. MOWRER *Journalist's Wife* xvi. 211, I was to hold myself at their disposal, 'camera-ready' by nine o'clock on most days.

1959 *Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gaz.* 8 Dec. 25/2 (*advt.*) Our expanding Lithography department needs young lady for vari-typer operator who can also prepare simple camera-ready paste-ups.

1979 *Jrnl. Royal Soc. Arts* July 486/1 By the second deadline..they were to have..completed the lay-out and paste-up so that their camera-ready flats were ready for printing.

1996 *Entertainm. Weekly* 16 Feb. 54 Three new camera-ready thrillers are arriving in bookstores already garlanded with fat motion picture deals.

- 2005 R. B. TAYLOR *Clinician's Guide Med. Writing* iv. 88 Copyeditors cannot change your camera-ready table, which sometimes may be disadvantageous when an error is found.
- 2008 *Magnet* No. 79. 56/2 Gone is the lobby-poster iconography of albums past, the cover shots of a camera-ready duo.

camera-ready copy *n.* *Printing* material which is ready to be photographed (or digitally processed) for transferral to the printing plate; abbreviated *crc*.

- 1961 *Anniston (Alabama) Star* 31 Oct. 13/3 (*advt.*) Camera Ready Copy.
- 2002 R. BARRASS *Writing at Work* 114 Cross-references must be added at the proof stage unless you are preparing camera-ready copy.

camera rehearsal *n.* a rehearsal for a film or television programme at which camera movements are planned and practised.

- 1935 *Daily News Standard (Uniontown, Pa.)* 10 June 7/6 For lighting and camera rehearsals, Gale can do the same jig that Eddie does, and he hops about exactly like the banjo-eyed comedian.
- 2005 J.-N. BASSIOR *Space Patrol* viii. 143 Hopefully, there had been time on Friday for a camera rehearsal with the scenes in sequence.

camera script *n.* a script detailing which camera is to be used during each shot of a film or television shoot, and what its position, angle, etc., should be.

- 1934 *Daily Courier (Connellsville, Pa.)* 4 Apr. 6/6 Berkeley now prepares a 'camera script' in which each shot is plotted and planned.
- 1986 J. BENTHAM *Doctor Who—Early Years* 172 It meant a lot of work for the Director preparing his camera script because he had to know exactly where to put his cameras to get the shots he wanted.
- 2003 P. TURNER *Secrets Screen Acting* (ed. 2) xiii. 156 If the cameras cannot see you according to the preplanned camera script, then it is likely that *you* will be moved rather than a camera.

camera shake *n.* unintentional slight movement of a camera during photography or filming, liable to cause blurring of the image.

- 1937 *Times* 26 Oct. 46/4 There is a right way of holding every camera so that its balance in the hand is 'comfortable' and the risks of camera-shake are reduced to a minimum.
- 1962 L. DEIGHTON *Ipress File* xxiv. 154 A slow motion movie would be less subject to camera shake.
- 2005 *Digital Photographer* No. 31. 54/1 Many professional telephoto lenses employ a vibration reduction system to eliminate the effects of camera shake.

camera-shy *adj.* unwilling to be photographed or filmed.

- 1903 *Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News* 12 May 3/4 These same camera shy dare devils of the mountains take particular delight in having their families and their cemeteries photographed.

- 1958 *Manch. Guardian* 30 June 6/4 It is not difficult to sympathise with the camera-shy M.P. who fears that his daily life is to become too public with the arrival of television in the House.
- 1994 *Ticket* Aug. 24/1 She now poses for photos while camera-shy Geoff does the talking.

camera tube *n.* (a) *Photogr.* (in a camera or scientific instrument) a tube along which light is directed from a lens or source into a device holding the film or plate (now chiefly *hist.*); (b) *Television* any of various types of cathode ray tube used in television cameras to convert an optical image into a corresponding electrical signal; also called *pick-up tube*; cf. **ICONOSCOPE** *n.* 2, **ORTHICON** *n.*, **VIDICON** *n.*

- 1855 *U.S. Patent 13,093* 1/1 My invention..enables the camera-box to be adjusted..for taking stereoscopic pictures... It gives by its arranging the lenses of the camera-tube exactly the same distance each time.
- 1889 G. M. HOPKINS *Exper. Sci.* (1893) xv. 332 Nos. 1 to 12, Plate V., show a camera tube, box, and tripod, the materials of which cost less than a dollar.
- 1931 *Science* 2 Oct. (Advt. section) 8a, The light enters by the slit, is reflected along the camera tube by a right-angled prism of quartz, [etc.].
- 1937 *Bismark (N. Dakota) Daily Tribune* 9 Jan. 2/3 Turning to the modern art, we find the heart of the television camera is this special camera tube.
- 1953 S. W. AMOS & D. C. BIRKINSHAW *Television Engin.* I. iv. 79 A monoscope is a camera tube containing a target on which a pattern or photograph is printed and which..generates a picture signal corresponding to the printed image.
- 2004 *Time Out N.Y.* 17 June 63/1 It would be a challenge to find a TV executive who knows that the Emmys take their name from an early orthicon camera tube.

camerawoman *n.* a woman who uses a camera; *spec.* a woman whose job is to operate a film or television camera.

- 1909 *Every Where* Feb. 344/2 The weaver..is, or was, till the camera-woman came, probably talking about neighborhood matters.
- 1928 *Atlanta Constit.* 15 July 17 A/3 She becomes filled with the desire to become a newsreel camerawoman.
- 2005 E. BUCHANAN *From China with Love* ii. 39 At the Heathrow check-in desk I met up with Sue, one of the few camerawomen to work in foreign news.

camerawork *n.* the use of a camera; (now *esp.*) the manner or technique of positioning and using a film or television camera.

- 1858 *Photographic Notes & Jrnl. Birmingham Photographic Soc.* 15 May 126/1 Nor did I see anything very tempting for camera work, so instead of loitering on my road I determined on proceeding still further along the coast to Torquay.
- 1908 *Daily Chron.* 14 Mar. 3/3 They are most excellent examples of camera-work.
- 1998 L. FORBES *Bombay Ice* (1999) 13 The camerawork was amateurish, tracking too quickly from a sea spumy as boiling milk to catch the bare brown feet of a crowd.

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