FILM REVIEW

Guidelines

**DIRECTIONS:** Students will write a film review every two weeks (always due on a Friday). The film review should be about a film that was recently viewed. All of the information about the film must be accurate (check information on IMDB). Each film review will choose some type of angle or main idea (**thesis**) that will be developed throughout three paragraphs.

**Examples of Theses:** acting, storyline, a theme (a big idea in the film), special effects, compare to another film, novel adaptation, etc.

* **Introductory paragraph** that provides the film and year released; ***Pan’s Labyrinth*** (2006); director, writer, and up to four main stars. Write a *brief* synopsis of the film without giving away major plot points or the ending. Finally, write a sentence or two that provides your general impression of the film and one specific aspect that you enjoyed the most about the film (**thesis**). You can write a negative review; maybe you didn’t like the film!
* **Second paragraph** that specifically talks about why you liked or didn’t like the film (based on your **thesis**). Discuss your idea with specific examples from the movie. Eventually you will discuss the structure (camera/structure/editing/sound) that helps create a great movie. This paragraph is the longest and should be specific.
* **Third paragraph** that provides a conclusion with genre, what type of audience would enjoy the film, and your recommendation. Try to wrap up the **thesis** with a sentence or two why this film will be memorable or forgotten by future viewers.

**Important:** All reviews should be typed, double-spaced, size 12, and a readable font. You can find important information about the film at www.imdb.com.

**Reviews will not be accepted after 3 days (-10 points off each day late up to three days, after three days students will then receive a 0%)**

**Film Writing Guidelines and Style**

Name Due Date

Film Analysis Period

**Assignment Name (Bold or underlined)**

1. Every film paper must have a succinct synopsis of the film without giving away major plot points (2-3 sentences should suffice).

2. Always mention director and two-four major stars. Mention the character first and the full name of the actor in parenthesis; **Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill).** After you may only refer to the character, or possibly by the actor’s last name when referring to the acting style. Be consistent.

3. Movie should be in bold italics or underlined if hand-writing. Please put the year of release in parenthesis when first mentioning the film. ***Memento*** (2000)

4. Use ***www.imdb.com*** to obtain all information about movies.

4. Please type all assignments when possible (neat font, size 12, double-spaced)

5. You may hand-write if needed, but please BE NEAT!

**Film Review Rubric**

To conserve on paper, the points for the film reviews will be written on the review itself. Use the following rubric as a guide to the numbers for your grade.

Introduction (all guideline standards utilized) **25 points**

Body Paragraph (guidelines utilized, specific examples used) **30 points**

Conclusion (guidelines utilized) **20 points**

Punctuation/Grammar (as per guidelines and rules of P/G) **15 points**

Sentence style (complete sentences, fluency, variety) **10 points**