**Writing a film review**

**TASK:** To write a film review of the 1951 production of *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and to create a storyboard that reflects your personal interpretation of the play.

**Film Review:**

A film review has the following purposes:

* **To inform**: Tell the reader who is in the film and who it is directed by
* **To describe**: Summarize the plot and characters
* **To analyse**: Give an opinion of whether or not the film is successful, and use specific evidence to support it.
* **To advise**. Let the reader know if the film is worth seeing

**Your film review MUST:**

* + Develop a clear and relevant opinion of the film and how effective (or not) it is.
  + Be detailed, with specific examples to support opinions.
  + Comment on specific conventions of film such as camera angles, lighting, set, and costumes
  + Examine directorial choices such as using a modern setting and re-arranging the order of events.

**Storyboard:**

Once you have formed a clear opinion about the effectiveness of the film, choose a scene that you would like to interpret and create a storyboard of at least eight frames. This is your chance to show what you would do (better?) if asked to direct a film adaptation of *Hamlet*. Consider what you criticized about the RSC production.

Your storyboard MUST:

* + Be at last eight frames
  + Utilize at least four different camera angles
  + Communicate a clear tone and setting
  + Include a brief description of the shot

**For further information**:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english/creativewriting/movingimagesrev2.shtml>

<http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=hamlet+david+tennant+full&safe=active>

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1449175/>

**BUT DO NOT READ ANY ACTUAL FILM REVIEWS ABOUT THIS PRODUCTION. I want YOUR opinions, not someone else’s.**

Writing a film review

**RUBRIC**

Note: Please attach your storyboard to your film review.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Level 4 | Level 3 | Level 2 | Level 1 |
| **Knowledge**   * Film is clearly identified and summarized   + Specific details have been included   + Film conventions are correctly identified | /10 | Considerable | Good | Satisfactory | Needs Improvement |
| **Thinking and Inquiry**   * Planning chart is complete * There is clear analysis of specific film conventions * Supporting details that are specific and clearly connected to the film and novel are included | /10 | Considerable | Good | Satisfactory | Needs Improvement |
| **Communication**   * Writing follows a logical sequence of events * Appropriate tone for the selected audience * There is correct use of spelling, grammar and punctuation. | /10 | Considerable | Good | Satisfactory | Needs Improvement |
| **Application**   * All elements of a film review and storyboard are present * Final product is professional * Connections to the play are specific and relevant | /5 | Considerable | Good | Satisfactory | Needs Improvement |

Comments:

Writing a film review

When writing your film review, start by filling in the following chart. Remember to be specific and to include examples. Use the chart you completed as a resource.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Features | Review |
| What the movie is about |  |
| Your opinion |  |
| Evidence to support opinion |  |
| Comments on plot |  |
| Comments on direction |  |
| Comments on lighting/effects |  |
| Comments on acting |  |
| Connection to the play: Which was more effective? |  |