

## ***Brick* Essay**

### Film Analysis and Composition: Maxfield

**Prompt:** Explain how *Brick* follows typical characteristics of film noir in terms of plot, characters, visual motifs, or theme.

**Directions:** Using your notes from *Brick* and notes on film noir, provide examples from the film that match or transform the typical characteristics of film noir movies. Your paper should focus on only 1 of the following aspects of film noir:

Plot

Visual Motifs

Characters

Theme

#### **Organization:**

**Introduction:** Begin with a hook – a quote, a fact, a question, a vivid scene description, etc. Include the film title, writer, and director somewhere in this paragraph. Finish the paragraph with an expository thesis statement relating to the film and the specific film noir characteristic you have chosen.

**Body paragraphs:** Each body paragraph should start with a topic sentence relating to one specific sub-category. For example, the protagonist is a sub-category of the more general film noir characters' category. Multiple detailed and precise examples from the movie should support each topic sentence. Include transitional words when you start each body paragraph.

**Conclusion:** Restate (say it in a new way) your thesis statement. Include your opinion about the movie. Finish with a strong clincher sentence relating to film noir.

**Conventions/Presentation:** Please type your paper – size 12 font, double-spaced and submit to [turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com)

**Scoring:** 100 Points, 6 Trait rubric on Back

NAME:

	6 Exemplary	5 Strong	4 Proficient	3 Developing	2 Emerging	1 Beginning
<b>Ideas &amp; Content</b> 2 main theme 2 supporting details	Exceptionally clear, focused, engaging with relevant, strong supporting detail	Clear, focused, interesting ideas with appropriate detail	Evident main idea with some support which may be general or limited	Main idea may be cloudy because supporting detail is too general or even off-topic	Purpose and main idea may be unclear and cluttered by irrelevant detail	Lacks central idea; development is minimal or non-existent
<b>Organization</b> 2 structure 2 introduction 2 conclusion	Effectively organized in logical and creative manner Creative and engaging intro and conclusion	Strong order and structure Inviting intro and satisfying closure	Organization is appropriate, but conventional Attempt at introduction and conclusion	Attempts at organization; may be a "list" of events Beginning and ending not developed	Lack of structure; disorganized and hard to follow Missing or weak intro and conclusion	Lack of coherence; confusing No identifiable introduction or conclusion
<b>Voice</b> 2 personality 2 sense of audience	Expressive, engaging, sincere Strong sense of audience Shows emotion: humor, honesty, suspense or life	Appropriate to audience and purpose Writer behind the words comes through	Evident commitment to topic Inconsistent or dull personality	Voice may be inappropriate or non-existent Writing may seem mechanical	Writing tends to be flat or stiff Little or no hint of writer behind words	Writing is lifeless No hint of the writer
<b>Word Choice</b> 2 precision 2 effectiveness 2 imagery	Precise, carefully chosen Strong, fresh, vivid images	Descriptive, broad range of words Word choice energizes writing	Language is functional and appropriate Descriptions may be overdone at times	Words may be correct but mundane No attempt at deliberate choice	Monotonous, often repetitious, sometimes inappropriate	Limited range of words Some vocabulary misused
<b>Sentence Fluency</b> 2 rhythm, flow 2 variety	High degree of craftsmanship Effective variation in sentence patterns	Easy flow and rhythm Good variety in length and structure	Generally in control Lack variety in length and structure	Some awkward constructions Many similar patterns and beginnings	Often choppy Monotonous sentence patterns Frequent run-on sentences	Difficult to follow or read aloud Disjointed, confusing, rambling
<b>Conventions</b> 2 age appropriate, spelling, caps, punctuation, grammar	Exceptionally strong control of standard conventions of writing	Strong control of conventions; errors are few and minor	Control of most writing conventions; occasional errors with high risks	Limited control of conventions; frequent errors do not interfere with understanding	Frequent significant errors may impede readability	Numerous errors distract the reader and make the text difficult to read

COMMENTS:

OVERALL GRADE: