Worksheet

Dominant conventions of the Horror Film

Conventions are elements that allow us to recognise a film as being part of a genre, and help us to know what to expect from a film.

TASK - In pairs or groups

Identify the conventions of the Horror Film used in these films. You should write your answers under the following headings.

Setting (Where is the film set?)

Iconography (What kind of buildings, costumes, objects, machines, cars, etc are familiar aspects of the horror genre)

Style (What aspects of the film's style are common to the horror genre?)

Narrative (What aspects of the story are characteristic of horror?)

Range of characters and relationships with each other

Themes (Are there any social themes or messages in the film?)

Audience response (What is the particular appeal of this film to an audience? What audience would it appeal to?)