

Prompt: Does *The Usual Suspects* qualify as modern film noir?

Directions: Using your notes from *The Usual Suspects* and on film noir, write a compelling argument either for or against *The Usual Suspects* as an example of modern film noir. Include relevant examples from the movie to back up your opinion. You may wish to compare *The Usual Suspects* to other recent films or other film noir, but this is not a requirement.

Organization: A minimum of 5 paragraphs

Introduction: Begin with a strong attention grabber – a quote, a question, or a vivid scene description from the film. Include the film’s title, writer, and director somewhere in this paragraph. Finish the paragraph with a well-built thesis that takes a stance on *The Usual Suspects*’ noir qualities.

Three or more body paragraphs: Each body paragraph should start with a topic sentence relating to one specific noir category or sub-category. For example, the protagonist is a sub-category of the more general film noir characters’ category. **Provide multiple detailed examples and concise analysis to support each topic.** 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, following MLA format for headings and title. Submit to turnitin.com upon completion.

Scoring: This essay is worth 100 points; the rubric is on the back of this sheet.