

## **Film Review Format**

**(Reel-to-Real) — show the reader the film by following the format below. Include the recommended number of sentences for each of the 7 areas indicated.**

### **I. Introduction**

**(3 – 6 sentences)**

Hook the reader: write an interesting, catchy lead to grab the reader's attention. Explain the significance of the title of the film.

### **II. Credits**

**(4 – 6 sentences)**

Name the film and indicate the release date. Name the director and mention any previous or recent films by this director. Identify the main characters along with the actors and actresses who portray them. If possible, name any previous or recent films by these actors and actresses. Find an interesting way to transition through these details.

### **III. Genre**

**(4 – 6 sentences)**

Identify the main genre(s) of this film and explain how this film fits the criteria of the genre(s). Connect the film to other films with similar genres.

### **IV. Plot**

**(5 – 7 sentences)**

Identify the screenwriter and indicate:  
the protagonist,  
the antagonist,  
and the main conflict (external / internal / both).

Write a brief summary of the plot without giving away the resolution to the conflict or the ending.

### **V. Theme**

**(5 – 8 sentences)**

Focus on the theme(s) of the film - not the plot, not the narrative. Indicate the general idea or insight about life the filmmaker makes in this film. Connect to other possible films in the genre, other films by the director, or other films viewed in class.

### **VI. Recommendation**

**(10 – 12 sentences)**

Give the reader your overall reaction to the film. Write a recommendation to either see the film or avoid the film. Give four to six reasons for your recommendation backed up with specific examples from the film. Include both the technical aspects of the film and your personal reaction and assessment of the film. Consider the script, filming, acting, special effects, music, direction, editing, and target audience.

### **VII. Summary and Zinger**

**(3 – 5 sentences)**

Write a few general and concluding remarks about the film. Include what you learned from this film. Leave the reader with some lasting impression of the film. Write a catchy/memorable phrase that summarizes the film experience.

NAME:

	6 Exemplary	5 Strong	4 Proficient	3 Developing	2 Emerging	1 Beginning
<b>Ideas &amp; Content</b> ?? main theme ?? 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> ?? structure ?? introduction ?? 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> ?? personality ? 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> ?? precision ?? effectiveness ?? 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> ?? rhythm, flow ?? 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> ? 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: