

## **Genre Review Essay** – For 1 of the films viewed in class or on your own viewing

### **Possible Format –**

**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO STICK TO THIS OUTLINE, BUT YOU SHOULD INCLUDE THESE ELEMENTS SOMEWHERE IN YOUR ESSAY. REMEMBER, GENRE DISCUSSION SHOULD BE A LARGE PART OF YOUR ESSAY. EVERY CATEGORY COULD HAVE A POSSIBLE CONNECTION TO GENRE.**

### **I. Introduction**

Hook the reader: write an interesting, catchy lead to grab the reader's attention. Explain the significance of the title of the film **if applicable**. Consider using the tagline.

### **II. Credits**

Indicate the year of release. Name the director and **possibly** mention any of his or her important or recent films. Identify the main characters along with the actors and actresses who portray them. **If feasible**, briefly connect to other important or recent films by these actors and actresses. Find an interesting way to transition through these details. Don't forget internal citations for this. IMDb is a good source.

### **III. Genre - THE FOCUS OF THE ESSAY**

Identify the main genre of this film and explain how this film fits the genre criteria. Use your notes on genre to find comparisons and examples that go **with and against** genre conventions. You may have to do additional genre research if you pick a film outside of our genre unit. If so, make sure you cite your sources.

### **IV. Plot**

Identify the screenwriter(s) and/or source material. Make sure you include an internal citation. Identify the protagonist(s), the antagonist(s), and the main conflict(s). Write a **brief** summary of the plot without giving away the resolution to the conflict or the ending.

### **V. Theme and Lesson**

Focus on **one** theme or lesson of the film. Indicate the general idea or insight about life the filmmaker makes in this film. Explain and provide film details in your analysis.

### **VI. Film Making Techniques**

Pick one filmmaking technique that you think was particularly well done. Explain what and how it was accomplished. Feel free to research for assistance. Make sure you include any research in the Works Cited and as internal citations.

### **VII. Recommendation**

Give the reader your overall reaction to the film. Write a recommendation to either see the film or avoid the film. Give at least three detailed reasons for your recommendation backed up with specific examples from the film. You can consider both the technical aspects of the film and your personal reaction to the film.

### **VIII. Summary and Zinger**

Write a few general and concluding remarks about the film. Leave the reader with some lasting impression of the film. Write a catchy/memorable phrase that summarizes the film experience. Consider connecting back to the tagline.

**\*Don't forget an MLA Works Cited page and internal citations where necessary.\***

	Exceptional (A)	Proficient (B)	Approaching (C)	Below (D)	Well Below (F)
<b>CONTENT</b>					
• Introduction with thesis	Engaging introduction that contains hook. Contains a strong, well defined thesis (last sentence of introductory paragraph!) Paper has direction	Coherent introduction contains some general background info. Clear thesis defined, provides direction for paper	Intro is weak, doesn't give reader general background or hook. Thesis is not clearly stated, perfunctory, simple unclear.	Vague introduction, reader has little sense of what film is about. No clear thesis, incomplete	No attempt
• Support & evidence	Detailed, accurate, specific, convincing and appropriate examples or quotations from film. Fully developed throughout essay	Sufficient, accurate examples or quotations from film. May not be fully developed throughout essay.	Uneven, general, often brief support. Minimal examples used from film. Not fully developed throughout essay	Vague, missing or inappropriate support. Little or no examples from film used.	No attempt
• Ideas, analysis, & argument	Reasoned, insightful ideas. Show critical thinking and analysis. Shows thorough knowledge of film topic, themes, and/or production values. Thesis is well developed, interesting, and clear,	Shows some critical thinking and analysis. Shows knowledge of film topic, themes, or production values  Thesis is clear and thoughtful.	Shows limited critical thinking and analysis' Shows limited knowledge of film, theme, or production values  Thesis is simplistic, inadequately developed, or lacking in relevance.	Minimal analysis Doesn't demonstrate knowledge of film, theme, or production values  Thesis is obvious, unsound, or inaccurate.	No attempt
• Conclusion	Stylishly and subtly returns to thesis. Extends main ideas, connects and comments on topic.	Returns to thesis and summarizes main points and ideas. Effectively concludes but doesn't extend	Summarizes previously stated information, but lacks closure or extension	Incomplete, Fails to conclude, adds nothing in many words	No attempt
<b>ORGANIZATION</b>					
• Follows Format of a good essay. Includes Topic Sentences and Transitions	Perfectly follows format of essay. Topic sentences clearly related to thesis and comprehensive. Fluid, engaging and varied transitions made between paragraphs	Follows format of essay. Topic sentences are related to thesis. Clear, functional "bridge" transitions made between paragraphs	Somewhat follows essay format. Topic sentences are a restatement of position, narrow or inaccurate, may not be appropriate for paragraph's content Awareness of transitions but seems mechanical or forced.	Doesn't follow format of essay. No topic sentences or not appropriate for paragraph's content. No clear connections between paragraphs	NA
<b>EXPRESSION</b>					
• Sentence Structure and Vocabulary	Complete, varied, interesting, evident command of technique, style and grace	Complete and correct, some style, effective vocabulary	Some variety, some errors present, sufficient vocabulary	Repetitious, fragments and run-on's frequent, low level vocabulary	NA
• Mechanics	Contains minimal to no errors in conventions (grammar, punctuation, spelling, capitalization)	Contains few minor errors in conventions	Contains errors that are distracting or cause confusion	Many convention errors interfere with communication or meaning	Errors are so profound they prevent readability.
<b>RESOURCES</b>					
	Works Cited and internal citations complete and in proper format. Film is properly cited.	Works Cited and internal citations are complete, with minor errors. Film is cited.	Works Cited and internal citations complete, not in proper format. Film is cited.	Works Cited is incomplete or missing some internal citations.	No attempt at Works Cited or Internal Citations