

WHAT SHORT FILM TO WATCH?

Being an Intelligent and Savvy Movie Enthusiast, Critic and Appraiser

A WEBQUEST

in English Language
Learning for Grades 9-10

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INTRODUCTION

Robert Ebert once said that great films should seem new every time you see it. What makes a movie great? How do you tell whether a film is good or bad? How can you value movies of different genres? Why are these movies important? Why are film reviews relevant in our lives today? You will now learn to appreciate and understand movies so that we could use the film industry as an effective medium for social awareness and responsibility. By being critics and movie review writers, we get to know better how to judge media, specifically films, in our current technological age.



TASKS

You are members of the panel of judges for an Asian original short film festival. There are five (5) films that are part of the festival and each film has its unique story, film techniques and themes that fit the need for the pursuit of truth in our blinded society. As a film critique and the judge of the film festival at the same time, it is your responsibility to make the general public aware of films that help promote peace, solidarity, social responsibility and love for Asian culture. Choose the best film out from the five films. Also, bestow recognition upon the films that stand out in aspects like cinematography, editing, screenplay, soundtrack, directorship and other major film elements.

Also, as very efficient and well-acclaimed critics from the panel of judges, you are given the job to be part of the Philippine Cinema Evaluation Board and grade films for viewership here in our country and for imposition of tax incentives. Make sure that the films are worth the general public's trust.

Lastly, part of your job as members of the panel of judges is to create an academic movie review of the films being watched.

The review should be objective and must try to tackle the entire composition of the film: from camera movement, editing, soundtrack, acting, storyline to overall mark-up. The review will be a basis for improvement of the films and at the same time a sample comprehensive critic of the films in the film festivals to come.



PROCESS

1. In your group (determined by the teacher-facilitator), know first the elements that complete a film. Be aware of the film techniques, scene elements, sound elements and character elements that are relevant for the overall makeup of a film. Click the links below to read and learn the basics of film-making and thereby know how to grade a film.

General Film Elements:



<http://www.filmclass.net/ElementsFilm.htm>

Cinematography:



<http://www.lavideofilmaker.com/filmmaking/film-techniques.html>

Sample Film Techniques/Directorship:



<http://www.borgus.com/hitch/index.htm>

2. Next, as film critics you should also know the literature of film – the **screenplay**. Get to know the script and the entire makeup of the storyline by clicking the link below:



<http://thescriptlab.com/screenwriting>

3. Once you are ready to know how to watch films by noting their elements of the film makeup and screenplay, watch the five original short films. Please be objective in viewing and grading the films by disregarding the awards they have received in their respective film festivals joined:



Koh Panyee (Thailand): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jU4oA3kkAWU>



Mimiking (Japan): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyG3bn-IHSA>



Silence (Malaysia): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4CuMA-G8OI>



Silup (Philippines): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1cqWN7GyOPs>



Stolen Heart (India): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMiqRbL6WrM>



PROCESS

4. Then as members of the panel of judges, discuss the films that you have watched and select a film which will be a recipient of each of the following awards:



Best Story and Screenplay



Best Cinematography



Best Musical Scoring



Best Production Design



Best Editing



Best Director



Best Actor/Actress



Best Picture (ranking)

After which, discuss as a group simulating as members of the Philippine Cinema Evaluation Board which grades film as A or B. First, be aware of the role of the CEB in the country by reading the law on the formulation of the board of evaluators:



Role of the CEB:

http://www.lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra2002/ra_9167_2002.html

Next, know the CEB's requirements for each grade then rate the films being watched.

Grading Films as A or B:



<http://www.pep.ph/celeb/23904/pep-special-year-end-report-grade-a-films-of-2010/1/2>

5. Finally, divide the panel into five pairs and each will document their comments and criticisms for the film they are assigned to write a film review about. Be familiar in writing an objective and academic **film review** or **appraisal**. The list of film vocabulary terms is available in the link as well:



<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/materials/student/humanities/film.shtml>



EVALUATION

Each student will receive two marks for this group-oriented and task-based project:

Panel Discussion Group Involvement and Participation and Movie Review Individual Written Output

A. Panel Discussion Group Involvement and Participation

The students will simulate a Film Critic Panel that will synthesize a list of winners of different film aspects and will grade films based on Cinema Evaluation Board's requirements. With this, a productive and engaging panel discussion should be achieved. To guide the student-discussants in simulating the panel discussion, a rubric is provided:



Click *Ctrl* and picture for link to rubric.



B. Movie Review Individual Written Output

Then, each student or pair will create a movie review of his/her or their assigned movie. To give guidance in creating a movie review, the criteria or rubric is provided.



Click *Ctrl* and picture for link to rubric.





CONCLUSION

Congratulations!

You have been a great part
of the success of the Asian
Film Festival!



We appreciate your tedious efforts to discuss comprehensively the film nominees and their strengths in each of the film aspects and by then award the deserving winners and grade films accordingly for the general public to trust for.

Also, we recognize your writing prowess in the academic movie reviews you have written for the purpose of informing the public and improving the state of the film industry in our country and in Asia.

We hope you now learn how to appreciate more films as media for cultural entertainment and at the same time for helping ease up the pressing problems of our respective communities. 😊