

# Film Studies: Essay #3

## The Critical Review:

Criticism isn't always a bad thing. Criticism simply means that you are analyzing and evaluating a text. For this last assignment, you will act as a film critic and write one positive film review and one negative film review.

## The Assignment:

1. Find two film reviews online. Find one that praises a film and another that negatively criticizes a film. Annotate at least 4 times how the film critic explains his/her opinions. This will help you figure out how to write a film review on your own.
2. Select one film that you REALLY liked and one film that you REALLY didn't like. You will write a one-page criticism explaining why you liked one film and disliked another.

BEWARE! This project will require both opinion and explanation. Do NOT explain that you like a film because "It's cool" or dislike a film because "It's stupid." Be WAY more specific and try to convince your reader that your thoughts and opinions are valid.

For each one-page critique, you must have the following:

- a thesis statement that answers the following question: "**Should your friend watch this film? Why or why not?**"
- at least two body paragraphs that explain the films pros or cons (you could analyze the quality of the story, the characters, the acting, the directing, the music, or the backgrounds)
- a BRIEF conclusion

Film Critique Essay (Film Studies)

	INSUFFICIENT MASTERY	APPROACHING MASTERY	MASTERY	BEYOND MASTERY
<b>THESIS</b>	Your essay contains a thesis, but it may not be clear or relevant.	Your thesis states a simplistic argument that somewhat answers the essay question.	Your thesis states a clear argument that answers the complete essay question.	Your thesis states a clear and sophisticated argument that answers the complete essay question.
<b>EVIDENCE</b>	You address only small pieces of the film.	You address some of the film but without sufficient detail or explanation.	You address most of the film with enough detail and explanation.	You address the significant parts of the film with detailed explanation.
<b>ANALYSIS</b>	You do not explain or interpret the evidence. The essay mostly contains summary.	You explain only some of your evidence. OR Your explanation does not connect to your thesis.	You analyze the evidence supports your thesis in a 4:1 ratio.	You clearly, persuasively and sophisticatedly analyze your evidence supports your thesis in a 4:1 ratio.
<b>COHESIVENESS &amp; ORGANIZATION</b>	You do not provide clearly identifiable topic sentences.	Your topic sentences do not clearly support your thesis statement.	Your topic sentences clearly support your thesis statement.	Your topic sentences clearly support your thesis and provide a smooth transition from one idea to the next.
<b>GRAMMAR</b>	Grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling have many noticeable errors.	Grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling have some noticeable errors.	Grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling have no major errors.	Grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling have no noticeable errors.

IF ANY PART OF YOUR ESSAY FALLS BELOW MASTERY, REVISE & RESUBMIT.

Thesis: /50	Comments:
Evidence: /100	
Analysis: /200	
Cohesiveness/Org. /100	
Grammar /50	
Total: /500	