

Film Studies: Essay #2

Comedy vs. Tragedy:

You have studied the difference between Comedy and Tragedy in my class. For a reminder, I recommend rereading Aristotle's Poetics and reviewing the Tragedy vs. Comedy flow chart.

The Assignment:

Watch the following films:

- Lars & the Real Girl
- The Wrestler

Lars & the Real Girl is a good modern example of a comedy, and The Wrestler is a good modern example of a tragedy. Write a straightforward essay that explains how one film is a comedy and the other a tragedy. Be sure to use the following terms to help explain your argument:

Hamartia

Peripeteia

Anagnorisis

Tragic Irony

Write a 4 page essay answering the following question:

How would Aristotle classify Lars and the Real Girl as a comedy and The Wrestler as a tragedy?

Your essay must have the following:

- a thesis statement that clearly answers the essay question
- use of the analytic structure for your body paragraphs
- analysis that directly explains your thesis
- at least 3 quotations from EACH movie (at least 6 quotations total)
- a BRIEF conclusion

Tragedy vs. Comedy (Film Studies)

	INSUFFICIENT MASTERY	APPROACHING MASTERY	MASTERY	BEYOND MASTERY
THESIS	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.
EVIDENCE	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.
ANALYSIS	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.
QUOTATIONS	You either do not quote the text or improperly drop in entire quotations without having them be a part of a larger sentence.	You sometimes properly quote evidence by introducing the quotation.	You consistently quote evidence properly by introducing the quotation and provide a brief interpretation before analyzing.	You consistently quote evidence properly by introducing the quotation and provide a persuasive interpretation or multiple interpretations before analyzing.
COHESIVENESS & ORGANIZATION	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.
GRAMMAR	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	
Quotations	/100	
Grammar	/50	
Total:	/600	