

How to Write a Film Review

Excerpts from the CD-ROM created by Barbara Csenge and Mike Bann for the Sprockets Education Programme

Writing a successful film review is like baking really great cookies. As a chef you need to pay attention to essential ingredients to make the recipe work but creativity and personal choices are what make the final result more tasty and interesting.

As a film review writer you must consider basic elements such as the story, character, technical details, sound/music and the theme or message in the film. A chef must think about who they are baking cookies for, a film reviewer, in the same way should pay attention to their audience, who will read the review and what their tastes and interests might be. Not every element must be discussed in every review. The film you are reviewing will determine the elements that should be discussed.

As well, decisions about film are based on what you prefer (fantasy or science fiction) and what is happening in your world. To write a successful film review it is important to lead or introduce your review with reasons for your choice and conclude with a summary of how all the elements, story, character, technical details, sound/music and the theme combine to make the film entertaining.

Lead/Introduction

A strong introduction is an important element to any writing assignment. Film reviewers call this a lead and use it to draw the reader into the body of their review. When writing a film review, a lead provides a broad picture of the importance of the film. This may have something to do with the actors, the novel from which the film is adapted, the theme or social issues dealt with in the film or some other noteworthy feature. Once this broad or general introduction is made the rest of the film review should deal with specific details in the film, (character, plot, technical elements, sound and theme). When you get to the end of your review after discussing specific details of character, plot, technical elements, sound and theme, the conclusion should relate back to what you discuss in your lead. The overall effect should be to "wrap up" your point of view regarding the film.

Plot

The plot is a pattern of events in the main story of the film. A film reviewer should summarize

How To Write A Film Review Paper

Timothy Corrigan



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Introduction to Documentary, Fourth Edition Bill Nichols, Jaimie Baron, 2024-08-06 The fourth edition of Bill Nichols's best selling text *Introduction to Documentary* has been vastly altered in its entirety to bring this indispensable textbook up to date and reconceptualize aspects of its treatment of documentaries past and present. Here Nichols with Jaimie Baron has edited each chapter for clarity and ease of use and expanded the book with updates and new ideas. Featuring abundant examples and images *Introduction to Documentary Fourth Edition* is designed to facilitate a rich understanding of how cinema can be used to document the historical world as it is seen by a wide variety of filmmakers. Subjectivity, expressivity, persuasiveness and credibility are crucial factors that move documentary film away from objective documentation and toward the thought provoking realm of arguments, perceptions and perspectives that draw from a filmmaker's unique sensibility to help us see the world as we have not seen it before. Exploring ethics, history, different modes of documentary, key social issues addressed and both the origins and evolution of this form, this updated volume also offers guidance on how to write about documentaries and how to begin the process of making one. *Introduction to Documentary Fourth Edition* will be of use not only to film students but also those in adjacent fields where visual representations of reality play an important role: journalism, sociology, anthropology, feminist and ethnic studies among others.

A Short Guide to Writing about Film Timothy Corrigan, 2024-08-09 *A Short Guide to Writing about Film* continues to be the definitive resource for introducing students to film study, unlocking the art of film criticism with concise insights about the essentials of writing. The text introduces key film terminology, equipping students with the tools they need to craft thoughtful and critical essays. Featuring an array of student and professional examples, Corrigan takes readers on a journey from initial analysis and drafting to the creation of polished essays. With an engaging style, he demonstrates how film analysis can transform into a nuanced and rigorous compositional process. Perfect for both beginners and seasoned writers, this textbook is your gateway to mastering the language of film.

How to Be a Film Critic in Five Easy Lessons Christopher K. Brooks, 2019-12-02 *How to Be a Film Critic in Five Easy Lessons* addresses the serious matter of the increasing gap between the published opinions of professional film critics and the reception of popular film by traditional moviegoers, especially millennial movie fans. Recent reactions to the low grades emanating from Rotten Tomatoes, the iconic film review aggregation site, have inspired various constituencies to call for significant changes, including some major studio CEOs, some actors, and the readers of reviews themselves. A new generation and breed of film critics is needed, not raised to please baby boomers or Generation X movie fans but younger viewers who make up 30% of ticket buyers. This study examines all this and offers five categories of film reviewers plying their trade as

models of consistency New critics have to start somewhere most often in college film classes and deciding what type of critic one wants to be begins here *Michigan Film Review*, 1917 **Objective First Student's Book with Answers with CD-ROM** Annette Capel, Wendy Sharp, 2014-01-30 Fourth edition of the best selling Cambridge English First FCE course updated to prepare for the 2015 revised exam The Student's Book with answers contains fresh updated texts and artwork that provide solid language development lively class discussion and training in exam skills The 24 topic based units include examples from the Cambridge English Corpus to highlight common learner errors while vocabulary sections informed by the English Vocabulary Profile ensure that students are learning the most useful language required at this level A phrasal verb list provides a handy reference The interactive CD ROM provides comprehensive extra practice of the language and topics covered in the book Class Audio CDs containing the recordings for the listening exercises are available separately

Writing in Film Studies, from Professional Practice to Practical Pedagogy Bryan Mead, 2024-01-09 A common refrain heard from instructors in offices across the world is that students have a hard time producing quality written discourse This is no different in the world of film studies where many undergraduate students struggle to cogently discuss the films they watch in class How can film instructors help students become better writers This book answers this question by first uncovering the disciplinary expectations we have for students and then offering strategies to explicitly teach those expectations in the classroom This book examines and identifies the disciplinary conventions of professional film studies discourse along with the expectations we have for student writing in undergraduate film courses What becomes clear from this analysis is that the pedagogical expectations we have for students are aligned with and shaped by professional writing in the discipline It helps to uncover the argument types instructors take for granted and helps those teaching undergraduate students not only to know what those expectations are but also how to use that knowledge to foster better student writing

Cambridge Global English Stage 6 Teacher's Resource Jane Boylan, Claire Medwell, 2014-05-22 Cambridge Global English is a nine stage language rich course for learners of English as a Second Language following the Cambridge International Examinations curriculum framework Teacher's Resource 6 provides step by step guidance notes for teachers for each lesson in every unit to support teaching the content of Learner's Book 6 Notes on Activity Book 6 are also included A unit overview provides a snapshot of lesson objectives and the language and skills covered The notes include answer keys to activities in the Learner's Book and Activity Book complete audio scripts suggestions for differentiation and assessment cross curricular links portfolio opportunities and additional unit linked photocopiable activities and unit based wordlists *Four Word Film Reviews* Benj Clews, Michael Onesi, 2010-07-18 In four words or less this book brings together movies from across the multiplex So whether you like the Coen brothers Fargo Chipper cop chipped criminal or the Farrelly brothers Dumb Dumber Two guys zero brains you'll get a laugh from these online critics witty review reductions This book is your must read guide to over 400 movies brought to you in 3D so real you can flip the pages for less than the price of admission to Michael Bay's

latest pyrotechnics display Action Adventure Comedy It's all inside for your viewing pleasure And be sure to stay after the credits for the Four Word Film Review Quiz to see how well you really know your movies Four Word Film Reviews Condensed content big laughs

The Quick Fix Guide to Academic Writing Phillip C. Shon, 2017-10-30 Whether you're writing a paper essay assignment or dissertation this short and punchy book helps you improve your writing skills through minimal effort Providing you with a quick set of writing rules to follow this tried and tested guide uses a unique and easy to follow grid based system Packed with advice on understanding big and little common errors made in academic writing it helps you identify patterns in your own writing and demonstrates how to reshape or re evaluate them and raise your writing game in any academic context How to tutorials include Synthesizing and critiquing literature and using your coding sheet to develop critical arguments Shaping abstracts introductions discussions and conclusions to improve the logic and structure of your writing Applying lessons learned to future projects whatever format of academic writing Save time and improve your grades with this essential quick fix guide The Student Success series are essential guides for students of all levels From how to think critically and write great essays to planning your dream career the Student Success series helps you study smarter and get the best from your time at university

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