



Getting Ahead – Pre-course Work

#ThinkBrock

Film Studies A Level

Welcome to **A Level Film Studies**. In preparation for the start of the course, please complete these tasks and have them with you to hand in during your first week of college in September.

These tasks should take you approximately four and a half hours to complete and are designed to give you an introduction to the subject, and the expectations we have for you to complete at least four and a half hours of independent study, per subject, per week.

Film Review Task

Before starting the A Level Film Studies course, you are required to write a **500-word review of a film of your choice**. This task will help you begin thinking critically about films and develop the analytical skills needed for the course.

1. **Choose a film** that you have watched recently and would recommend to others.
2. Write a **500-word review** that:
 - Gives a brief overview of the film (without revealing major spoilers).
 - Discusses the story, characters, and performances.
 - Analyses some film techniques such as cinematography, editing, sound, mise-en-scène, or special effects.
 - Explains what worked well and what could have been improved.
 - Gives your opinion and an overall judgement of the film.
3. Include:
 - **Film title**
 - **Director**
 - **Year of release**
 - **A suitable rating out of 5 (5 being highest and 1 being lowest)**



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Suggested Structure

Introduction

- Introduce the film, director and genre.
- Briefly state your overall opinion.

Main Paragraphs

- Discuss the narrative/storyline.
- Comment on characters and acting performances.
- Analyse film techniques and how they affect the audience.
- Explain the film's strengths and weaknesses.

Conclusion

- Summarise your overall judgement.
- State whether you would recommend the film and why.

Sentence Starters

- The film I have chosen to review is...
- Overall, I found the film to be...
- One of the most interesting aspects of the film is...
- The film effectively uses...
- A particular scene that stood out to me was...
- This helps the audience to...
- One of the film's greatest strengths is...
- However, one aspect that could have been improved is...
- In my opinion, the film successfully...
- To conclude, I would recommend this film because...