

## Feature Film Study Notes and Activities

1. People find movies appealing for a number of reasons such as their favorite actor is starring in it or the subject matter interests them. In a paragraph, state why you chose to view this film.
2. Describe the opening scene. Is this an effective way to begin the film? Why or why not?
3. Choose one scene and answer the following questions:

Does the camera follow one person or does it jump from character to character? What effect does this create? How does the film make use of light in this scene?
4. View the film for errors. In "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves", there is a scene where Robin Hood is lying on the beach. As the camera moves from Robin Hood (Kevin Costner) to the other actors in the scene, then back to Robin Hood, his costume changes. Did you notice any such editing problems in your film? If yes, describe them.
5. What emotions are created in the film? How are they created? Be specific.
6. Is any information concealed from the audience? Is any information concealed from other characters? What is the purpose in doing this?
7. Did the characters in the film miss any clues or overlook any information? For example, in the movie "The Witness", two hit men search a washroom after they commit a crime in it. Neither one of them sees the young boy hiding in the cubicle. Logically, one of them should have found him.
8. Almost all films contain implausible scenes. In the movie "Snow Dogs" for example, two men and their dog sled are hanging over a cliff and the dog team is able to pull them up to safety. If there were implausible scenes, describe them. Were you able to accept them because they added to the film or did they detract from your enjoyment of the film. Explain.
9. What type(s) of music is used in the film? Is it effective? Explain.
10. Are the characters' reactions realistic? Give specific examples.
11. Does the film make use of flashbacks? If yes, explain.
12. What social statements are made through this film?
13. Describe one scene from the film that is outstanding or memorable. What made it that way for you?
14. In several paragraphs, write a summary of the movie then write a review of the movie stating what you liked and/or disliked about the movie. Be sure to recommend or not

recommend this movie to someone else. Make sure you back up your opinion with specifics from the movie.