

It's nearly the weekend!!!

Friday 22nd January 2021

L.O: To express opinion in a film review

- To use the first person voice
- To use a range of language to give opinion
- To include persuasive language

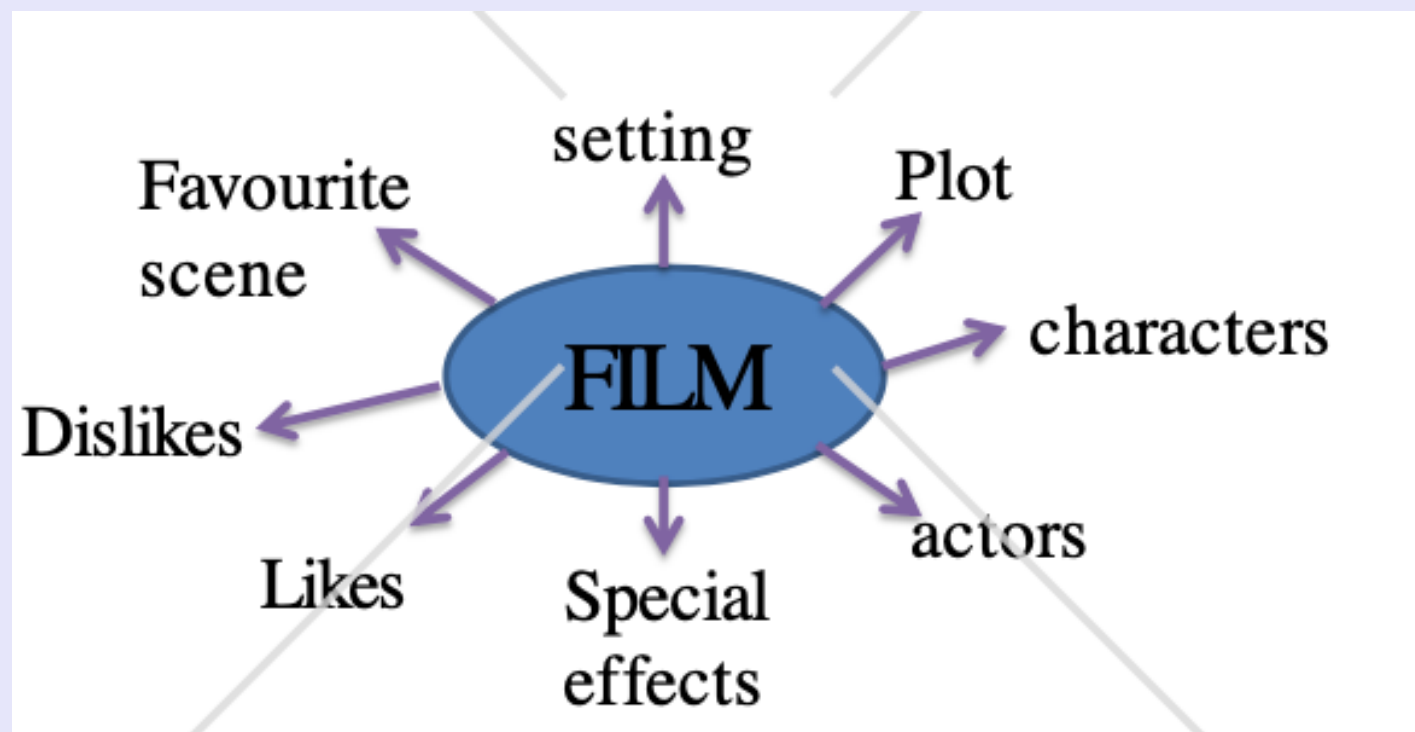
Today is our last day on Alma! We will be writing a film review.

What is the point of a review?
What should you include?

What is a review?

- Gives information
- Expresses opinion - using the first person
- Gives reasons/explanations for opinion
- Provides an overall summary
- Focuses on key details
- Uses persuasive language

Have a quick brainstorm about Alma:



Try to give your opinion using a variety of language:

Avoid: I think _____, I think _____, I think _____.

Persuasive Writing

Introductions

I think...
For this reason...
I feel that...
I am sure that...
It is certain...
I am writing to...
Of course...
In the same way...
On the other hand...
In this situation...

Making your point

Firstly, secondly,
thirdly...
Furthermore...
In addition...
Also...
Finally...
Likewise...
Besides...
Again...
Moreover...
Similarly...
Surely...
Certainly...
Specifically...
If...then...
because...

Details

For example...
In fact...
For instance...
As evidence...
In support of this...

Endings

For these reasons...
As you can see...
In other words...
On the whole...
In short...
Without a doubt...
In brief...
Undoubtedly...

Other Words

reasons
arguments
for
against
unfair
pros
cons



Read through this model review:

Alma (2009): A Review



★★★★★ (9/10) | Jensen Golez, September 1, 2017

(Short, Snappy Introduction) Patience is not required. In only 5 minutes, Disney/Pixar animator Rodrigo Blaas creates a misleadingly cheery moment, rises to a sombre crescendo and leaves viewers dangling in disturbance.

(Brief Summary) *Alma* is one of the good short films I have seen in a while. It has an interesting story although it is very disturbing and eerie. The film centres on a young girl who gets lured into an enchanted toy store, drawn in by its beautiful collection of dolls, including one that looks just like her. She discovers only too late that the shop is nefariously intent on adding her to its permanent collection.

(What do you like? Special Effects) To start, it is evident that there is only one character throughout the entire film, Alma, whom the short story revolves around. Furthermore, the employment of sound has been used very effectively in the sense that it is used not only as background music but also to show and convey the emotion and reactions of the little girl Alma. For example, when Alma sees the doll which reflects herself in the shop window, the music becomes a bit alarming and eerie to convey a sense of shock towards the audience. Another reason as to why music is so important is because at the beginning of the animation, it is the music which effectively is used to immediately indicate that the setting/place is in France due to the sort of music which is played: a traditional French styled composure.

(What do you like? Favourite Scene) In my opinion, *Alma* is a good story for its own genre; horror and suspense. I find it intriguing the first time I watched it, predicting what is going to happen next. The scene where she almost touches the doll, gave it the most suspenseful feeling throughout the film. The plot was very amusing yet horrific. I was stunned of what the film turned out to be for I thought it was going to have a colourful story as most short films usually have. I also enjoyed it as a silent film where *Alma* doesn't say a word, yet the film was still understandable and lastly the music throughout the film was amazing, it gave the film a more suspenseful feeling.

(You could also include any dislikes of the film, anything you would want to change)

(Conclusion with final opinion) In conclusion, *Alma* is one of the good short films to watch out there, the animator did a marvellous job in creating this film and releasing it to the public for everyone to watch.

Features of a Film Review Checklist

Have I...



| | |
|---|--|
| included the title of the film, the year it was made and who directed it? | |
| opened my review with a strong first sentence that makes the reader want to read on? | |
| included the genre of film? | |
| mentioned some of the key actors by name? | |
| stated who the film is targeted at? | |
| given a summary of the plot without giving away the ending? | |
| stated where this film sits in a series, and whether I would watch the next film (if there is one)? | |
| given my opinion of the film? | |
| used powerful adjectives and adverbs to add further detail? | |
| mentioned the strengths of the film, with specific detail? | |
| mentioned the weaknesses of the film, with specific detail? | |

You can use this structure to help you:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A Film Review by _____ | | Your star rating for this film ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ |
| Title: _____ | | Director: _____ |
| Plot What happens? Are there any plot twists? Did you find the plot interesting? | Characters Who are the main characters? Who was your favourite character? Why? | |
| Your opinion Did you like the film? What was your favourite part? Why? | | Recommend Would you recommend this film to a friend? Why or why not? |

We hope you enjoyed Alma! We will be looking at our new text next week!

Please send a photo to your class teacher:

ksutherland@kingsavenue.Lambeth.sch.uk

mjames@kingsavenue.Lambeth.sch.uk

