

English First Peoples 12: Movie Critical Reaction Guidelines

I highly encourage you to choose a movie that you're interested in, or one that you've seen already and know that you love. Here are the guidelines for the movie critical reaction.

*** Paragraphs are typically 4-6 sentences*

1) Character Analysis:

Choose at least 2 characters from the movie (the important ones). Write a detailed analysis of the character (at least 1 paragraphs each): what is their personality like? How do they interact with the other characters? What motivates them? What is their role in the movie? (If it is a documentary you can look into some individuals featured in the film and write short passages about them).

2) Setting & Cinematography:

In 2 paragraphs describe the setting of the movie. This includes **where** and **when** the movie takes place, and the **context**. ALSO, discuss the cinematography: what filming techniques did you notice? What was the mood of the film? What was the overall effect of the filming?



3) Summary:

You don't need to recite the entire movie, just 2 paragraphs where you describe the plot of the story. You are basically describing the movie to someone who has never seen it, but not boring them to death with the details.

4) Conflict:

At the heart of every story is a conflict, dilemma, or problem. What is the central conflict in the film? Conflict is often categorized as: 1) person vs person (a conflict involving two or more people) 2) person vs self (an internal conflict, the character is battling themselves) 3) person vs environment (character is in conflict with society, their environment, their circumstances). Identify and describe the conflict in your story in 1-2 paragraphs.

5) Themes:

In 2 paragraphs, explain the themes or central messages of the story. What is the filmmaker trying to tell you? What are the overarching themes of the film? Explore at least 2 different messages or themes that you took away from the film.



6) Reaction:

This is the most important component of the movie critical reaction. This is where you tell me about your reaction to the story. What did you like about the film? What did you dislike about the film? Do you strongly agree or disagree with any of the messages or themes in the film? Did it speak to your own experiences in life? You can be creative here, but I want you to tell me about how you personally feel about the movie in 2-3 paragraphs. If you need more guidance, consider these questions: did you strongly like or dislike any of the characters? Did any of the characters remind you of people you know? Do you have any questions for the creators of the film?