

Drama/Movie Review Worksheet

Use the following questions and directions as a guide to planning your drama or movie review.

First, tackle the nitty-gritty elements.

1. What is the title of drama or movie you will review?
2. Who is the playwright or director? Does the biography of this person show up in the story? If so, explain.
3. Who are the main characters (e. g., protagonist, antagonist, supporting roles)? If a movie, name the actors who play those roles.
If a movie, how well do the actors play their roles?
Are they believable in their separate roles?
Do they fulfill what you believe to be the playwright's or director's main message, moral, or theme?
4. In one or two sentences, summarize the main plot. If necessary, summarize any sub-plots you plan to address in your essay.
When and where is the action set?
From whose POV is the story told?
Are there any inconsistencies or historical inaccuracies? If so, do you think they are intentional? If so, what might the playwright or director be trying to say through them?
Does the drama/movie fit any traditional genre?
5. Does the story follow the traditional plot lines? If not, what might the playwright or director be trying to express by breaking with tradition?
6. If a movie, how do the costumes, choreography, script, computer graphics or lighting work to achieve the director's main message, moral, or theme? Do any of them act as symbols?

Then, form an opinion about the drama/movie and provide evidence to support it.

1. In your own words, state what you believe to be the playwright's or director's main message, moral, or theme; or imagine that your friends have asked you whether or not they should see the drama/movie and give them your opinion of whether it's worth seeing. This statement will be your thesis.
2. Provide two or three reasons why you believe the above statement is the playwright's or director's main message, moral, or theme, or why your friends should see it. These facts will form the evidence or assertions to back up your thesis.
3. For each of those reasons, find a quote or paraphrase an act, scene, or piece of dialogue that are examples of those reasons. These facts will support your evidence or assertions, which in turn will prove your thesis.