

GCSE (9-1)

WJEC Eduqas GCSE (9-1) in FILM STUDIES

Glossary



Glossary

Aesthetics	<p>The specific 'look' of the film. The film's style.</p> <p>Consider the 'sci-fi' look created by a blue/green colour palette & low-key lighting in Joe Cornish's <i>Attack The Block</i>, for example.</p>
Auteur	<p>From the French 'author'. A director who has control over the style of the film.</p> <p>Consider Richard Ayoade's authorial stamp on <i>Submarine</i> and his homage to the French New Wave through nostalgic, hand held footage and a faded colour scheme.</p>
Cinematography	<p>Aspects of camera angles, distance and movement.</p> <p>Also a consideration of colour, lighting and texture of the footage.</p> <p>Consider the use of wide, sweeping, bleached-out landscape shots of the Australian bush in <i>Rabbit Proof Fence</i>, for example.</p>
Context	<p>When, where, how, and why the film is set.</p> <p>The time, place and circumstances.</p> <p>Consider that <i>Slumdog Millionaire</i> was made in Mumbai, India in 2008 and shows a dichotomy of life in India – poor, begging children living alongside others in wealth and safety, enjoying the latest technologies due to rapid globalization.</p>
Generic conventions	<p>Methods, ingredients, things necessary for the style/category of film.</p> <p>Consider the use of spaceships, alien forms and communication devices in Spielberg's <i>E.T.</i></p>
Diegetic	<p>Sound that is part of the film world (car horns beeping, birds singing, telephones ringing).</p> <p>Consider Justin Hurwitz's score that is played by the musicians in <i>Whiplash</i>.</p>
Non-diegetic sound	<p>Sound added in post-production to create a certain atmosphere (sound FX to increase fear, music to underscore emotion).</p> <p>Consider the choral music which helps us understand Tsotsi's redemption, for example.</p>
Genre	<p>The style or category of the film.</p> <p>Consider <i>Invasion of the Body Snatchers</i> as sci-fi, <i>Grease</i> as a musical but also newer genre categories like <i>Me, Earl & The Dying Girl</i> classified as a 'dramedy'.</p>
Iconography	<p>The images or symbols associated with a certain subject.</p> <p>Consider Gansel's use of the wave action & how it mimics that of the Nazi party salute</p>
Indie/independent	<p>Film that is independent of the constraints of mainstream Hollywood. These films are often characterised by low budgets, location settings (rather than studio), (often) inexperienced directors and fairly unknown casts.</p> <p>Consider that <i>Juno</i> cost \$7 million and was only Jason Reitman's second feature film.</p>

Key lighting (high and low)	Lighting design to create different light/dark ratios. High-key lighting is bright and produces little shadow, whereas low-key lighting is used to specifically create shadow and contrast. <i>Consider the low-key lighting of Eli to create mystery in Let The Right One In.</i>
Mainstream	Popular, conventional, and/or part of a major film studio system. <i>Consider Spielberg's hugely successful work for Hollywood studio Universal Pictures' production and distribution companies.</i>
Mise-en-scène	Literally, 'what is in the frame': setting, costume & props, colour, lighting, body language, positioning within the frame all come together to create meaning.
Motif	A dominant theme or recurring idea. <i>Consider the recurring colour motif of a warm centre surrounded by cooler colours in Song Of The Sea echoing Ben's childhood safety.</i>
Plot	Different to story, plot is the narrative order that the story is told in.
Representation	The way that people, places and events are constructed.
Screenplay	Written by the screen writer, this document tells the story and will contain no camera direction.
Story	The ideas & events of the narrative whole.
Shooting script	Written by the director & cinematographer (not the screen writer), this script focuses on planning the camera shots & other practical elements that will bring the screenplay to life.
Spectator	An individual member of the audience. Although we may view a film in the cinema together, the experience will be individual according to a range of factors.