

# St Mary Redcliffe and Temple 6<sup>th</sup> Form



## Year 11 into 12 Transition Task

Subject: FILM STUDIES

SMRT 6<sup>th</sup> Form gives students the chance to study new subjects that they have not experienced at GCSE. We want to ensure that everybody who has chosen such a subject has a good understanding of it involves so that they don't find themselves having to swap within the first few weeks or stuck with something that turns out not to be what they expected.

We have therefore set you a series of tasks to complete, which you should bring with you to your first lesson.

There are more resources suggested that you could look at if you want to get deeper in to the subject before you start.

At SMRT 6<sup>th</sup> Form we use the Eduqas Film Studies specification.

**To ensure you are ready to fully access the A Level Syllabus you should attempt these tasks:**

### Section A- Essential

Watch any American or British film of your choice – this can be a recent release or one from any era. It's fine to watch one you've seen before.

Prepare a Powerpoint or Prezi, analysing the film, focusing on the following points

- Give a brief 100 word summary of the plot at the start include the name of the director and the year the film was made.
- What is notable/interesting about the 'look' of the film – you could comment on cinematography, sound, editing, costumes/make-up/setting
- What kinds of messages and values are conveyed in the film? Give examples. How important is the wider social and political context to an understanding of the film?
- Choose two key characters who are in conflict in some way. Note down as much as you can about each of these two characters. What are the differences (and similarities?) between the characters?
- Include images if you can.

This will be presented in class. Either to the whole group or in smaller groups of three or four students.

## Section B – Desirable

Take a look at this website – [www.rottentomatoes.com](http://www.rottentomatoes.com)

OR The Guardian Newspaper Film Reviews section – <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/film>

Both contain a lots of reviews and discussion of a variety of films.

Read a selection of reviews of contemporary films.

TASK - Write a review in the style of Rotten Tomatoes or the Guardian of a film that you have seen. Aim to write approximately 200 words. Explore aspects of plot, character, setting and filmmaking. Use the conventions of Film Reviews, for example, a Star Rating.

## Section C - Challenge

### Make a (very) Short Film

You can't really learn how to do something without actually trying it. Only problem is, it can be pretty overwhelming to make something when you don't know how! It can be so hard to push through the fear of being bad, so you can get the experience required to be good. So take this as an opportunity to be terrible without judgement. All you have to do is shoot something, make at least three edits to it to get some editing practice, and you're done.

No-one else has to see it. No students, and not even any teachers if you don't want. There's no pressure to actually send it in!

Just get stuck in, get your hands dirty. You don't want your final grade to be based on your first ever attempt at filmmaking, right?

You can shoot this project on whatever you want, be it a smartphone or a nice photography camera. You can edit it on whatever you want too. Aim to be under 1 minute. It doesn't even have to be fiction. Just as long as it's SOMETHING.

TL;DR

- Make a short video under 1 minute
- Include at least 3 cuts/edits
- Don't take too long over it
- Don't think too hard about making it good. The point is doing SOMETHING.

Resources:

Editing Software:

- Windows Movie Maker. Free on any computer
- I movie. Free on any Apple computer
- Da Vinci Resolve. Free professional editing and colour correction software for any computer.

We hope you enjoy these activities.

We look forward to seeing you in September.

SMRT 6<sup>th</sup> Form Film Studies