



Creating Effective Film Reviews – Secondary

Our downloadable resources are designed to be used in conjunction with selected film titles, which are available free for clubs at www.filmclub.org



Interview each other

Questions to answer before you watch the film:

1. What are two great films that you have watched recently and why were they so good?
2. What is your favourite genre of film (comedy, action, romance, horror etc) and why?
3. What genre is the film that you are going to see next? How can you tell the film's genre?
4. What predictions did you make about the film from the poster? What about the poster made you think that?
5. Share the most interesting fact you know about this film. Why is it interesting to you?

Interview each other

Questions to answer after you watch the film:

1. What did you like about this film? Why?
2. What didn't you like about this film? Why?
3. What was most memorable about it and why?
4. If you had made this film, what might you have done differently?
5. Have you seen any other films like this one? How is this the same? How is it different?

Behind The Scenes with Mark Kermode



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Behind The Scenes with Matt Bochenski



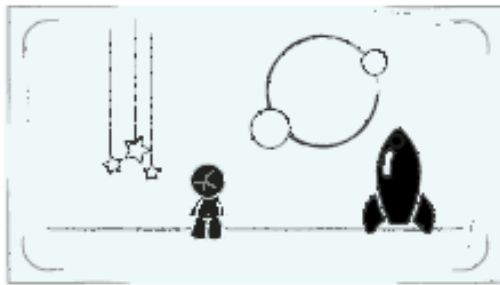
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Top tips for filming your review!

- 1. Rehearse** by reading your review aloud. Use body language and pauses to emphasise any key points. Get a friend to give you some honest feedback.
- 2. Find a quiet, well-lit location** to film your review. Do a couple of practice-runs with the camera.
- 3. Look back at your practice-runs.** Is the camera steady and well framed? Can the audience hear you clearly?
- 4. Is it interesting for the audience?** Are there any bits you need to take out? How can you improve it?
- 5. Experiment!** How could you use different camera shots, angles and locations to make it more interesting to watch?

Top tips for filming your review!

6. **Camera framing** Would a long shot or close up best suit the activity you have in mind?



Establishing shot



Long shot



Close up



Medium long shot



Mid shot



Extreme close up

Top tips for filming your review!

- 7. Camera positioning** Where is the best place to position the camera to get a clear shot?
- 8. Lighting** Are the people being filmed facing the light source rather than standing with their backs to it?
- 9. Sound** Have you chosen a suitable location to cut out background noise? Is the mic close to the person who is speaking to camera?
- 10. Use of a tripod** If you are without access to a tripod, have you minimised camera shake with your elbows on a table, shelf or wall?

Need some more inspiration?

Watch [these examples!](#)