FILM REVIEW GUIDELINES

Introduction

- Title, background (setting, type of film, characters, director)

Paragraph 1

Main points of the plot

Paragraph 2

General comments

Conclusion

Recommendatio

1. Title – look for a catchy title so that the reader can feel from the beginning whether the review will be positive or not.

2. Introduction to the director and film – who is the film directed by? Who was it written by? When was it made? What genre of film is it? (drama, horror, etc) It is based on a book/ true story/ historical event? Is

3. Introduction to the characters – Who are the characters? Which roles are they playing? Who plays the leading part?



Give your opinion on the

film – Did you enjoy the film? In parts? Not at all? Would you recommend it?

4. Outline of the plot -

Tell the basic events and say how the story builds up, but don't reveal key moments, especially the ending. Say where the story takes place

Useful expressions

Introduction-

- If you want an exciting/ boring/ frightening evening go and see (name of the film)
- If you like historical films, then (name of the film) is definitely for you;
- If you are wondering where to go and see on a Saturday night, I suggest you avoid (name of the film);
- Spielberg directed many exciting adventure films but nothing like as nail biting as (name of the film);
- Brad Pitt starred in many films, but (name of the film) is not one of them.

Background

- (name of the film) was written/ directed by ...
- It is based on the life ... / the author's experience/ on a book of the same name;
- It tells the story of ... and as the story develops, we see ...
- It stars (name of the actor/ actress) in the role of X;
- It takes place in the city of .../ it is set in ...at the beginning of the 20th century
- The film touches upon the problem of ...
- After a series of unbelievable coincidences...
- The film reaches a breath taking climax...
- The plot has an unexpected twist
- The plot is rather unconvincing

General Comments

- The film lacks ...
- The cast is excellent/ weak
- The script is dull / exciting, etc
- The acting is moving / powerful/ true to life / first rate / excellent / weak/ disappointing;
- It is brilliantly directed;
- The dialogues are touching/ witty/ hilarious / boring, etc;
- It will keep you on the edge of the seat;

Recommendations

- Don't miss it it will change the way you think about it;
- This film is must-see~
- I thoroughly recommend this film as it's a masterpiece of its kind that shows how ...
- The film is thought- provoking;
- On the whole, I wouldn't recommend it, in view of the fact that ...
- -This film leaves much to be desired ...