

Chapter 4: Film Review

ICE BREAKERS [PAGE 117]

Ice Breakers | Q 1. (i) | Page 117

Choose the correct alternative from the following -

From one star given to the movie, we conclude that - _____.

1. The movie is very short.
2. **The movie is not worth watching.**
3. The movie is serious.
4. The movie is in black and white.

SOLUTION

From one star given to the movie, we conclude that - **The movie is not worth watching.**

Ice Breakers | Q 1. (ii) | Page 117

Discuss with your teacher how/why are 'stars' given to a movie.

SOLUTION

Stars are a standard of ratings used by expert reviewers to rate a movie or a play. The rating is based on various parameters such as quality of the script, casting, cinematography, quality of acting, narration, music, etc. These ratings presented by reviewers help people to get an idea of the movie's worth.

Ice Breakers | Q 1. (iii) | Page 117

The word 'Review' is different from summarizing and appeal writing. Choose the correct statements of the following.

1. **A film review is an expression of your personal views towards a particular film, documentary, or movie.**
2. A film review gives you an opportunity to express opinions about the movie, including its characters, plot, and background.
3. A film review gives appealing sentences that make your reader curious or anxious about the film.
4. A review means an explanation of each and every event of the film.

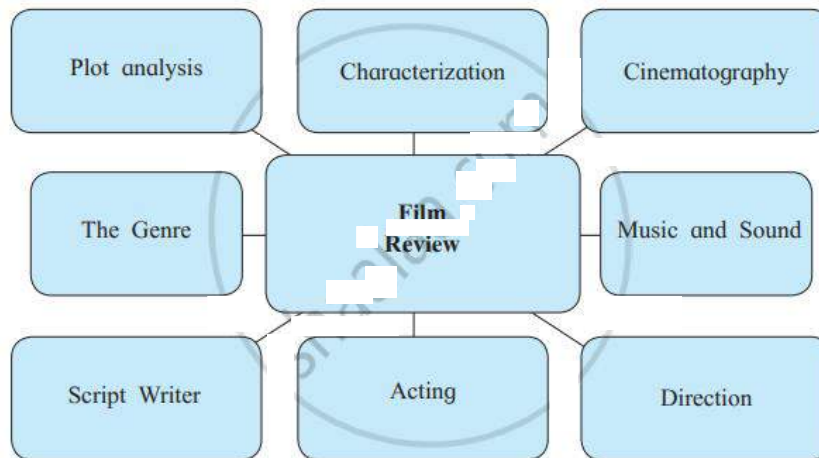
SOLUTION

A film review is an expression of your personal views towards a particular film, documentary, or movie.

BRAINSTORMING [PAGES 119 - 121]

Brainstorming | Q (A1) (i) | Page 119

Every movie is worth critiquing. Describe in detail each point related to the film review with the help of the following web.



SOLUTION

a. Plot Analysis: Plot analysis includes assessing the plot of the film, its characters, and events in detail. It can be a time-consuming activity and should be done with great precision.

b. Characterization: Characterization is a process in which the writer describes different characters in the film. This process consists of two types:

- Direct characterization
- Indirect characterization

Direct Characterization tells the audience about the personality of the characters in the film. On the other hand, indirect characterization describes the characteristics of a character. E.g. the way they talk, react, or respond to situations.

c. Cinematography: Cinematography is the art of photography and camera work involved in film making. A film reviewer can add important observations regarding the cinematography of the film to make the review more elaborative and descriptive.

d. The Genre: A film genre is a motion-picture category based on the film narrative elements or emotional elements in the movie. Some common film genres are romantic, comedy, tragic, horror, and action.

e. Script Writer: Scriptwriters are also known as scenarists and are responsible for drafting the storyline of a movie. They also plot events and characters for a film.

f. Acting: Acting is the face of any movie. The acting skills of the characters in the film determine the excellence of the movie. Reviewers often build their first impressions of a movie based upon the acting.

g. Direction: A director leads the entire team that works on a movie. He/she takes care of every single detail right from the script, casting, performance, editing, technical

provisions as well as the post-production. Only an able direction can make a movie successful and gain good reviews from critiques.

h. Music and sound: Music and sound effects play a crucial role in making a movie engaging for the viewers. Apart from the visuals, music has a far-reaching impact on the audience. Reviewers critically analyse the quality and impact of music in a film and rate the movie accordingly.

Brainstorming | Q (A1) (ii) | Page 120

Discuss and explain the movie 'The Jungle Book' with the help of the following points.

- Classic element.
- Fantasy.
- Photorealism
- Blending of emotions

SOLUTION

Introduction: The Jungle Book is an all-time favourite classic for children and adults alike. It brings to life an amusing sequence of events in the life of a boy who is adopted and raised by a pack of wolves. He stays in the jungle with all the animals and comes across different experiences throughout the storyline.

The story of this film is taken from the collection of an English author Rudyard Kipling, who was a renowned writer and a proficient storyteller.

- **Classic element:** The classic elements in this film are the beautiful widescreen images of the rain forests, watering holes, human actors, realistic mammals, birds, and reptiles. These characters interact with one another, joke around and also sing along in celebrity voices. With these magical elements, the movie creates its own dreamy world and takes the viewers on a journey of merriment.
- **Fantasy:** The Jungle Book is a movie that is built on fantasy and amusing imagination of human life merging with animal life. It depicts a fantastic scenario where wild animals get compassionate towards an orphan child. Leaving their wilderness behind, they comfort the kid and protect him from unforeseen circumstances. This amusing fantasy appears like a beautiful dream in front of the viewers.
- **Photorealism:** Excellent use of photorealism and high-end technology keeps the viewers engaged throughout this film's narrative. The tech and creative teams

have performed a top job by looking into every minute detail and enhancing the movie experience for viewers.

- **Blending of emotions:** The Jungle Book takes its viewers on a roller coaster of emotions such as jealousy, hatred, fear, anger and joy, and also the ideas of peace and harmony. Viewers find themselves experiencing the same emotions that these characters exhibit through the course of this movie.

Brainstorming | Q (A1) (iii) | Page 120

'It all builds on the charm of the 1967 film, which by itself is a must-watch for any child.'

Explain this sentence in the context of the movie, focusing on the two given phrases- 'Charm of the 1967 film' and 'must-watch'.

SOLUTION

The sentence, 'It all builds on the charm of the 1967 film, which by itself is a must-watch for any child' refers to the beauty of this classic film which was released in the year 1967. Although several remakes have been made of Jungle Book in several dialects, this masterpiece has retained its wonderful essence. The film is significant for many reasons. Firstly, it was the last film produced by Walt Disney himself. Secondly, it had a unique concept of merging human and animal lives in a beautiful manner. The influence of this movie was such that for a number of decades to follow, Jungle Book was a must watch the movie for kids as well as adults.

Brainstorming | Q (A2) (i) | Page 120

Complete the following sentences.

The factors that have made 'The Jungle Book' a great movie are -

_____.

- It's a fantasy world of wonder.
- _____
- _____
- _____

SOLUTION

The factors that have made 'The Jungle Book' a great movie are -

- It's a fantasy world of wonder.**
- Fabulous photorealism of human and animal characters.
- The amazing blend of pure emotions.
- Wonderful use of high-end technology.

Brainstorming | Q (A2) (ii) | Page 120

The present review concludes with two words 'Heartwarming and enjoyable'. Write your opinion about 100 to 150 words.

SOLUTION

The present review concludes with two words 'heart-warming' and 'enjoyable'. These words are written with reference to the eventual impact that the movie has on its viewers. This impact is a result of fabulous precision employed by film director Jon Favreau. His remake of the classic film Jungle Book is a treat for Disney fans. While shooting this film in downtown Los Angeles, he has tactfully composed intricate landscapes, crafted excellent camerawork to shoot the movements of characters, and created a lively environment throughout the film. All these efforts have culminated in an eye-pleasing, heart-warming, and enjoyable experience for the viewers.

Brainstorming | Q (A3) (i) | Page 120

'Narnia' (part 1,2,3 and 4) is a film about 4 children who find a path to Narnia. Discuss in your class, the special effects, and direction. Write a review with the help of the following points in about 100 to 150 words.

- a. Storyline
- b. Producer
- c. Director
- d. Music Director
- e. Characters/ casting (major and minor)
- f. Setting / location
- g. Conflict
- h. Message
- i. Significance of the title.

SOLUTION

Introduction:

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe is a series of fantasy films which is co-written and directed by Andrew Anderson. This film was released in 2005 and was co-produced by Walden Media and Walt Disney. Harry Gregson-Williams had directed the music of this BritishAmerican movie which was a huge hit at the box office.

Storyline: This is a story of four English siblings named Lucy (Georgie Henley), Susan (Anna Popplewell), Peter (William Moseley), and Edmund (Skandar Keynes) who are evacuated from London during the Second World War and end up in the countryside. While stepping beyond a wardrobe to hide from their temporary stepmother, the kids

land up in an imaginary, gleaming land called Narnia. There, they could see a city with fauns, trees which could talk, and a white witch. In this land, a couple of kind beavers and a tiger protect them from the vicious intentions of a witch. The movie takes interesting turns as the four kids make their journey through the imaginary city of Narnia.

Review: The film 'Chronicles of Narnia' is based on a novel written by C. S. Lewis. The movie turned out to be a great success at the box office in the year 2005. The director has employed absolute excellence in the special effects, character plots, and use of technology in the film. All these factors together make this film worth watching for audiences across age groups.

Brainstorming | Q (A4) (i) | Page 120

Form groups and try to write a script for a short film or documentary on any topic of your choice. The script must develop properly. You can take the help of the following points.

- choose a topic
- central theme
- the beginning, the middle, and the end
- the message

SOLUTION

Emma, a dreamy, bubbly young girl of 23, living in the USA, wishes to travel to a foreign land. She wants to visit the cradle of the renaissance, the land of history and beauty, Europe. She expresses this wish before her friends and her mom who willingly encourages her to go on this solo voyage.

All excited about her dream trip, Emma lands up in Rome, from where she had planned to begin her trip. Walking through the quaint lanes of Rome, Emma begins to explore the city. She visits all the important historical monuments spread across, goes on a walking tour around the town, and makes new Roman friends who tell her about the rich history and heritage of their land. They also take her out for shopping and snacking on delicious local food.

However, after having a blast in Rome, Emma moves to Venice where she gets robbed. The thief steals her money, belongings, and crucial documents that are required to fly back to her homeland.

Panicked by this incident, Emma helplessly runs into a church to seek help.

Consequently, she meets a number of kind and generous people. She meets a woman who offers her food, a little boy who makes her smile, a young girl who offers her a place to stay and helps her with formalities to fly back to her homeland.

While on her way back home, Emma wonders how life throws at us an unexpected chain of events, and there's so much to learn from all of them.

This journey to Europe teaches Emma the lesson to maintain a positive outlook towards

life and not break down even in the toughest of situations. It instills in her a faith that life will indeed find its way!

Brainstorming | Q (A4) (ii) | Page 121

Form groups and use the ICT lab of your Junior College to make a short film on the script that you have prepared. There are several soft-wares that can be used for editing. You can take professional help. One can upload his/her film on mediums like Youtube and submit the link to the subject teacher.

SOLUTION

Do it Yourself.

Brainstorming | Q (A4) (iii) | Page 121

There are ample career opportunities in film making and producing films. The following professions which require different professional skills, and write them accordingly.

Professions	Professional skills
1. Actor-Male or Female	Acting, voice modulation, Body language, facial expressions, etc.
2. Director	
3. Producer	
4. Music-director	
5. Script-writer	
6. Lyrist	
7. Cameramen	
8. Cinematographer	
9. Set-designer	
10. Costume-designer	

SOLUTION

Professions	Professional skills
1. Actor-Male or Female	Acting, voice modulation, Body language, facial expressions, etc.
2. Director	Technological expertise, storytelling skill, problem-solving, immense creativity.

3. Producer	Coordination, attention to detail, financial strength.
4. Music-director	Good understanding of music, knowledge of various musical instruments, an interest in various music genres, experimental.
5. Script-writer	Strong writing skills, command over the language, visualization, keen observation, storytelling skills.
6. Lyrist	Interest in a language and its nuances, good writing skills, considerable knowledge of music and rhythm, strong vocabulary.
7. Cameramen	Acute knowledge of camera usage techniques, knowledge of camera lenses, and their appropriate uses.
8. Cinematographer	Strong knowledge of motion picture graphics and technology, creativity, a deep understanding of camera technologies and related equipment.
9. Set-designer	Strong visualization skills, problem-solving skills, technical knowledge of design.
10. Costume-designer	Strong sense of fashion, an understanding of global trends, understanding the need of the character in the film/play.

Brainstorming | Q (A5) | Page 121

You must have heard about the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune. It is India's top media Institute. It plays an important role in providing talent to commercial cinema, TV, and web serials. Browse the internet and find information about other institutes in India and abroad, write it in your notebook.

SOLUTION

Given below is the list of institutes that impart world-class courses on the subject of film and media:

- i. **Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata:**
This is one of the premium organizations in India that offers Post Graduate courses in four areas, viz. direction in the screenplay, audiography, editing, and cinematography.
- ii. **Whistling Woods International, Mumbai:**
This top scaled organization based in Mumbai offers courses on areas like acting, cinematography, direction, editing, the business of film & television, sound recording, design and music production, animation, and screenwriting.

- iii. **Centre for Research in Art of Film and Television, Delhi:**
This organization based in Delhi provides short -term as well as long -term courses in film making, direction, screenplay writing, and cinematography.
- iv. **Sydney Film Institute:**

This is one of the best institutes in Australia that offers graduate and postgraduate programmes in media and film making.
- v. **New York Film Academy:**
This institute is highly accredited and provides some of the best courses in media, filmmaking, cinematography, and direction.