A Level Film Studies
H410/02 Critical Approaches to Film
Edusites Sample Question Paper

Time allowed: 2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Complete the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer three questions in total:
  - Section A: Answer either Question 1 or Question 2.
  - Section B: Answer either Question 3 or Question 4.
  - Section C: Answer one question from Questions 5–10.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 105.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [ ].
- This document consists of 8 pages.
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
SECTION A – Contemporary British and US Film

Answer either Question 1 or Question 2

You should have studied **one** British film and **one** US film from the lists below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>British</th>
<th>US</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Britain, 15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gone Too Far</strong> (2013). Directed by Destiny Ekaragha. Britain, 12</td>
<td><strong>The Hunger Games</strong> (2012). Directed by Gary Ross. USA, 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Britain, 15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Angel’s Share</strong> (2012). Directed by Ken Loach. Britain, 15</td>
<td><strong>The Dark Knight Rises</strong> (2012). Directed by Christopher Nolan. USA, 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>We Need to Talk About Kevin</strong> (2011). Directed by Lynne Ramsay. Britain, 15</td>
<td><strong>Zootopia</strong> (2016). Directed by Rich Moore, Jared Bush, Byron Howard. USA, PG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EITHER**

1* To what extent do social and cultural context impact upon your understanding of the **one British** film and **one US** film you have studied?  

[35]

OR

2* To what extent does watching a film at home affect its power to draw you into the world of the film? Discuss in relation to examples from **one British** film and **one US** film you have studied.

[35]
SECTION B – Documentary

Answer either Question 3 or Question 4

You should have studied one documentary film from the list below.

- **The Stories we Tell** (2013). Directed by Sarah Polley, 12
- **Searching for Sugarman** (2012). Directed by Malik Bendjelloul, 12
- **5 Broken Cameras** (2011). Directed by Emad Burnat and Guy Davidi, 15
- **The Act of Killing** (2012). Directed by Joshua Oppenheimer, 15
- **Man on Wire** (2008). Directed by James Marsh, 12
- **Citizenfour** (2014). Directed by Laura Poitras, 15

**EITHER**

3* ‘Documentaries give viewers the complete truth on a subject’. Discuss this claim in relation to examples from the documentary film you have studied.

[35]

**OR**

4* To what extent does the documentary film you have studied move away from the narrative conventions of fictional films? Discuss this in relation to examples from the documentary film you have studied.

[35]
SECTION C – Ideology

Answer one question from Questions 5 - 10

You should have studied films from one of the following themes:

- Family and Home
- Outsiders
- Conflict

If you have studied films from the theme Family and Home, answer either Question 5 or Question 6.

If you have studied films from the theme Outsiders, answer either Question 7 or Question 8.

If you have studied films from the theme Conflict, answer either Question 9 or Question 10.

Theme: Family and Home

Answer either Question 5 or Question 6

You should have studied three films from your chosen theme. One film should be from the US Independent list, one film should be from the Non-US English Language list and one film should be from the Non-European Non-English Language list below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>US Independent</th>
<th>Non-US English Language</th>
<th>Non-European Non-English Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

EITHER

5* ‘Home is the most dangerous and frightening place in the world.’ Discuss how far this is true in the films you have studied. You must draw comparisons between the three films you have studied in your answer.  

[35]

OR

6* Compare how the films you have studied use micro-elements of film to generate meaning about what ‘family’ and ‘home’ are. You must refer to specific sequences from the films and make comparisons between the three films you have studied in your answer.  

[35]
Theme: Outsiders

Answer either Question 7 or Question 8

You should have studied three films from your chosen theme. One film should be from the US Independent list, one film should be from the Non-US English Language list and one film should be from the Non-European Non-English Language list below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>US Independent</th>
<th>Non-US English Language</th>
<th>Non-European Non-English Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

EITHER

7* How are micro-elements of film language used to construct a sense of the main characters ‘outsider’ status in the films you have studied? You must draw comparisons between the three films you have studied in your answer. [35]

OR

8* How important is understanding of social, cultural, political of historical contexts to being able to identify who / what the outsiders are and what are these characters outside of? Discuss this in relation to the films you have studied. You must draw comparisons between the three films you have studied in your answer. [35]
Theme: Conflict

Answer either Question 9 or Question 10

You should have studied three films from your chosen theme. One film should be from the US Independent list, one film should be from the Non-US English Language list and one film should be from the Non-European Non-English Language list below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>US Independent</th>
<th>Non-US English Language</th>
<th>Non-European Non-English Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

EITHER

9* ‘Storytelling conventions prevent films from being able to give an accurate portrayal of real conflict’. Discuss this in relation to the films you have studied. You must draw comparisons between the three films you have studied in your answer.

OR

10* How do micro elements of film language work to align the spectator to the films’ intended response? You must draw comparisons between the three films you have studied in your answer.

[35]

END OF QUESTION PAPER