

Working with Short Film

1. Viewing and Interpreting

Watch the scene or the short film through from beginning to end without interruption.

View a second time with direction. Useful areas upon which to concentrate include:

1. Music and Soundtrack	6. Three Most Important Lines
2. Lighting/Colour, Costumes/Clothes/Fashion	7. Transitions & Contrasts
3. Gestures, Expressions & Body Language	8. Obvious Symbols or Symbolic Gestures or Motifs
4. Setting and Props	9. Striking Images or Images for Freeze Framing
5. Use of the Camera/Point of View	10. Others texts you are reminded of in viewing this one

Ask students to work in pairs or groups of three.








Use a *Dialogic Teaching* approach to generate discussion and the development of ideas.

Some of these areas will be more important than others in any given text.

Record ideas and build upon ideas to form a coherent line of enquiry and interpretation.

2. Exploring Story and Plot

You can also view a scene or a short film with view to establishing how it works as a story. In this case, the students are directed to view with one or more of the elements of plot in mind. These plot-focussed questions will help students to recognise the way in which the narrative is structured.

-  What is the **Setting** (Location & Characters)?
-  What is the **Situation** of the central character?
-  What is the **Trigger** that drives the plot?
-  Outline the **Chain of Events** - action – consequence
-  Is there a **Crisis or Conflict**?
-  Where does the **Climax** occur?
-  What is the **Aftermath** or **Resolution**?