Shenley Brook End
Sixth Form
5 DIMENSIONS TRUST
Summer Transition Tasks
Subject:
FILM STUDIES
Due date:
Monday 7 September 2026
Complete all the assessment tasks and be ready to complete the in-class assessments in your first 3 weeks of term!
Remember – this summer task and knowledge tests will be reported on in your First Progress Report on 6 October 2026

A level Film Studies Eduqas

Objectives: Students will engage with analysis of film language focusing on aspects of mise-en-scene to analyse a chosen scene and shot from a movie of their choice. Students will also focus on learning key terminology linked to cinematography, editing and sound.

Tasks

Task One (Micro Elements)

Select an extract from a film of your choosing and write an analysis of this key scene.

You should focus your analysis on key elements of film such as camera work, editing, sound and the look and feel of the film.

You should analyse the scene as a whole first.

Then take one screenshot from your chosen scene and analyse in detail the following:

1. Setting
2. Props
3. Colour
4. Performance (Facial expression/ body language) *only if relevant*
5. Costume.

You should spend time watching the film, choosing the key scene and particular shot before writing your essay analysis on the key elements. (Viewing and choosing scene 2 hours)

In the essay you should write one paragraph on each element above: setting, props, colour, performance and costume. Before considering your screenshot and again annotating the key elements and zooming in detail on the range of elements. (writing essay one hour)

You will submit the scene analysis essay on the 7th September.

A Level Film Studies (routledgetextbooks.com)

For Further reading/ information on the MICRO element of Film. (30 mins)

TASK TWO Review Film Glossary Key Terms – Film Language.

1. Review and find the definitions for the below key terminology.
2. You will be tested in the key areas, Cinematography, Mes-En-Scene, Editing and Sound through a series of three quiz's in weeks 2-3.
3. You should spend time researching the key terminology, writing the definitions and testing yourself, this could be via flashcards.

KEY VOCAB LIST

Section one Camera shots	Definition	RAG (SEP)	RAG 2
1. Close- Up			
2. Medium Shot			
3. Long Shot			
4. Extreme Close up			
5. Establishing shot			
6. High angle shot			
7. Low angle shot			
8. Canted Angle			

Section Two Editing	Definition	RAG (SEP)	RAG 2
8. Match-on-action			
9. Shot-reverse-shot			
10. Eyeline match			
11. Graphic Match			
12. 180° rule			
13. Montage			
14. Jump- Cut			

Section Three Cinematography	Definition	RAG (SEP)	RAG 2
15. Framing			
16. Positioning			
17. Movement			
18. Lighting			
19. Low Key Lighting			
20. High Key Lighting			
21. Chiaroscuro Lighting			

Section Four MES	Definition	RAG (SEP)	
21. Mise-en-scene			
22. Setting			
23. Performance			
24. Costume			
25. Hair & make up			
26. Colour			

Section Five Sound	Definition	RAG (SEP)	RAG 2
27. Diegetic			
28. Non-Diegetic			
29. Parallel sound			
30. Contrapuntal sound			

Resources/Research/Wider Reading –

In preparation for the course and for further knowledge, you may wish to watch any of the prescribed films below. Please note, only one or two films from each area will be studied / set texts. If you are aiming for A/A* a secured understanding of the set texts is expected therefore viewing Joker, Get Out, We Need to Talk About Kevin and This is England is essential along with further viewing around the films. YouTube essays, documentaries etc.

Aiming for the A:

You should watch Either the American Films/ British Films

1. American Films- Get Out/ Joker (viewing time 4 hours)
2. British This is England/ We need to Talk About Kevin (viewing time 4 hours)

Then complete a fact file about the director of your two chosen films (1 hour research, 1 hour creating fact file)

- Consider context for the film why they made this
- What other films?
- What directorial style
- Who do they work with regularly
- Background and experience

Section B: American film since 2005 (two-film study)

Two films will be studied, **one** chosen from group 1 and **one** chosen from group 2:

Group 1: Mainstream film

- *Carol* (Haynes, 2015), 15
- *La La Land* (Chazelle, 2016), 12A
- *Joker* (Phillips, 2019), 15
- *Little Women* (Gerwig, 2019), U
- *Nomadland* (Zhao, 2020), 12

Group 2: Contemporary independent film (produced after 2010)

- *Beasts of the Southern Wild* (Zeitlin, 2012), 12A
- *Captain Fantastic* (Ross, 2015), 15.
- *Moonlight* (Jenkins, 2016), 15
- *Get Out* (Peele, 2017), 15
- *Promising Young Woman* (Fennell, 2020), 15

Section C: British film since 1995 (two-film study)

Two of the following British films will be studied:

- *Trainspotting* (Boyle, 1996), 18
- *Shaun of the Dead* (Wright, 2004), 15
- *This is England* (Meadows, 2006), 18
- *Fish Tank* (Arnold, 2009), 15
- *We Need to Talk about Kevin* (Ramsay, 2011), 15
- *Under the Skin* (Glazer, 2013), 15
- *Saint Maud* (Glass, 2019), 15
- *Mangrove* (McQueen, 2020)
- *Mogul Mowgli* (Tariq, 2020), 15
- *Belfast* (Branagh, 2021), 12

You may also wish to watch some of the TV shows about film or read some of the academic books listed below. Those aiming for A/A* should aim to read one book from the list below and consider a podcast or tv show to support their understanding of reading cinema.

BOOKS

Chesire E. et al: *WJEC Eduqas Film Studies for A Level and AS* (Illuminate Publishing)

Cousins M.: *The Story of Film* (Pavilion)

Doughty, R. and Etherington Wright, E.: *Understanding Film Theory* (Macmillan / Palgrave)

Maltby, R.: *Hollywood Cinema* (Blackwell Publishing)

Monaco, J.: *How to Read a Film: Movies, Media and Beyond* (Oxford UP)

Introduction to A level Film Studies A Level Film Studies (routledgetextbooks.com)

TV SHOWS

BBC I player: Mark Kermode's Secret of Cinema

BBC I player: Life Cinematic

Vimeo: Mark Cousins 40 Days to Learn Film https://vimeo.com/399407221

The Story of Film https://www.the-story-of-film.com/home