Introduction/Theory

In this assignment you will be asked to provide a written analysis / review of a piece of film focusing on it's artistic and performance elements. To do this assignment properly, you will need to practice the important skill of active viewing.

In most cases the act of watching a film is passive, where one’s attention is wrapped up as an audience member in the storytelling on screen. In active viewing, analysis of the film itself is the primary focus, and in this case specifically reviewing performance. The skill of viewing actively takes time to develop, but can be a powerful tool in providing insight into the creative methods used to create a specific piece of film performance.

Your required reading for this assessment can be found below, and will be helpful in devising an active viewing strategy.

Assignment Goals

- Be able to thoughtfully and intelligently review a film focusing on performance.
- Be able to undertake the process of active viewing
- Describe the components of a film from a narrative perspective
- Describe the components of a film from a performance perspective
- Know how to articulate your observations through written text
Project Instructions

Choose a small piece of film to analyse and review: (eg. 1-3 scenes in a feature film)

- Practice active viewing several times with the piece of film you have selected
- Take notes on the performance, narrative and artistic components of the piece of film

Communicate in written form the film’s:

- Genre
- Performance style
- Narrative structure
- Performance choices

Comment on the:

- Level of subtly and/or intensity
- Range of the actor’s performance
- Believability of the actor/s
- Flaws in the performance
- The director’s choices
- Storytelling within the film

Please upload your paper of at least 1000 words as a PDF to the field in the survey.

Helpful Resources:

Reading:
- Write a Movie Review
- Tips on Film Viewing
- Glossary of acting terms

Watching:
- Writing a Movie Review
- Reviewing Range in Screen Performance