

Student Learning Goals

In this strand I will...

Film Language

- Watch and explore a wide range of films.
- Discuss and share my thoughts on a wide range of films.
- Identify the elements of film language.
- Investigate the characteristics of different film genres.
- Select scenes from films that I enjoy and identify how they communicate meaning.

Watching Film

- Reflect on the different ways we can watch films today.
- Explore how films are marketed to audiences.
- Design a film poster for a favourite film and explore different trailers.
- Find out more about venues in my area where I can watch films.

Irish Film

- Explore and compare the plots and styles of different Irish short films.
- Explore Irish feature films and compare their themes with other films I have seen.
- Get to know the work of one Irish film director in detail.
- Find out about the filmmaking industry in Ireland, including animation, and related careers.

World Cinema

- Discover films from around the world.
- Find out more about life in other countries and cultures through films from those places.
- Compare watching film in another language with watching films in my first language.

Elements of Film Language

Camera

Camera Shots

Wide Shot-Taken from far away, shows characters and a background.

Medium Shot-Shows torso, face and some background.

Close-up-Shows head and shoulders of a character.

Point of View Shot-Shows you what a character is seeing

Camera Angles

Low angle-The camera is placed below eye level, looking up.

High angle-The camera is placed above eye level, looking down.

Camera Movement

Pan-The camera moves up, down or side to side.

Tracking Shot-The camera is moved forwards, backwards or side to side on 'train' tracks.

Focus-How clear or sharp an image is

In focus-When an image is clear and sharp.

Out of Focus-When an image is blurry.

Soft Focus-When a character or subject has soft edges.

Deep Focus-When the foreground, middle ground and background are all in focus.

Shallow Focus-When one part of the image is in focus, and another part is not.

Mise-en-Scène-How the scene is set or staged

Composition-Describes how things are positioned in the frame.

Colour Palette-The range of colours chosen for a scene.

Setting-Where a scene takes place
Props Any items used in a scene
Costume & Makeup-Anything worn by an actor

Lighting

Hard Lighting-Direct, e.g. a street on a sunny day, or a character in a spotlight.

Soft Lighting-Indirect, e.g. a street on a cloudy day, or a character at a candlelit dinner.

Sound and Music

Composed Score-Music written by a composer for a film.

Dialogue-Words spoken between characters.

Narration- A voice that tells the story.

Sound Effects-Sounds that are added to a scene.

Editing-How shots are put together

Cut-When one shot ends and another one begins.

Rapid cutting-e.g. action scenes.

Slow cutting- e.g. suspenseful or dramatic scenes

Performance

Performing-The way in which actors play with facial expressions, body language, voice as they perform.

**E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial- Directed by Stephen Spielberg, written by:
Melissa Mathison**

Film Synopsis

After a gentle alien becomes stranded on Earth, the being is discovered and befriended by a young boy named Elliott. Bringing the extra-terrestrial into his suburban California house, Elliott introduces E.T., as the alien is dubbed, to his brother Michael and his little sister, Gertie and the children decide to keep its existence a secret. Soon, however, E.T. falls ill, resulting in government intervention and a dire situation for both Elliott and the alien.

Key Characters:

Elliott-protagonist in the film

E.T. is Elliott's best friend.

Michael-Elliott's big brother

Gertie- Elliott's little sister.

Mary-Elliott's mother, better known as Mom.

Keys-the main antagonist in the film.

Keywords:

Protagonist-the leading character or one of the major characters in a play, novel, film, etc.

Antagonist-a person who actively opposes or is hostile to someone (the bad guy).