

Week beginning 20.4.20

Writing Task : To write a film review



Think back to the review that you wrote during the last week at school on the launch of the latest chocolate bar. Remember that we said that the purpose of review is to do several different things:

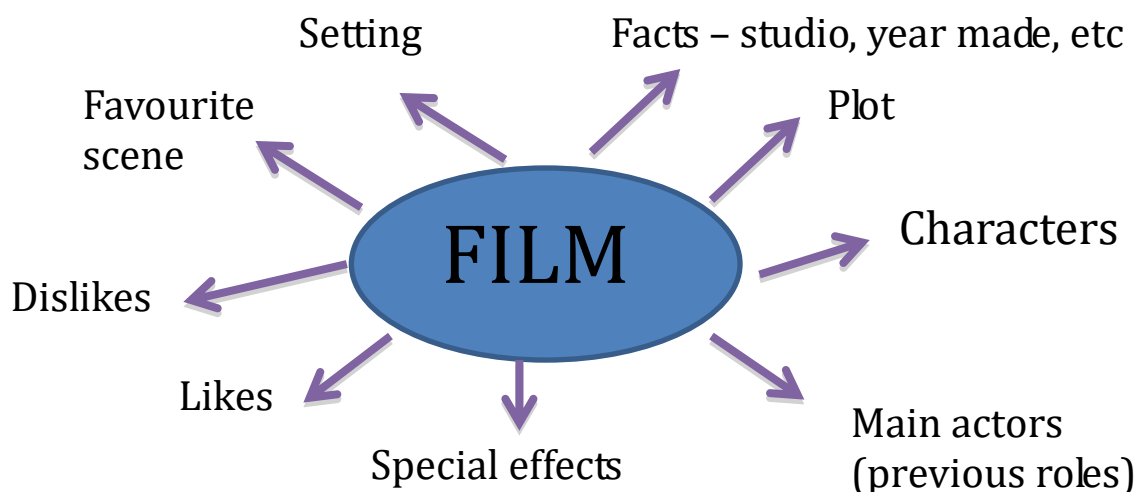
- provide an overall summary of the product (or in this case film)
- give detailed factual information (using a variety of adjectives and adverbs to add detail)
- express a personal opinion with reasons for these opinions
- use persuasive techniques to encourage/discourage someone to try it (e.g. emotive language, rhetorical questions, repetition)

In class, you would complete this work over several days so I have split the activity into four phrases.

Phase One: Research & Planning

Choose an appropriate film to review. You could choose your favourite film, or a film you have seen recently.

Once you have decided, write down as much information as you can in your planning notes.



You might want to look at some film reviews online to get some ideas on style and language – there are plenty of websites to choose from.

Phase Two: First draft

Use your notes to write your first draft, following the structure below:

1. Explain what the film is about
 - Title, director and target audience
 - Give an overview without giving away the story in too much detail
 - Refer to the genre (fantasy, comedy, action, etc) and any previous versions or prequels
2. Discuss the cast and their performance
 - Who are they? What else have they been in?
 - Are they believable in their role?
3. Highlights good points and bad points within the film
4. Write about your favourite part of the film
5. Give your overall opinion of the film and recommendation (including target audience)
6. Give a star rating for the film.

Remember to write in paragraphs, using a range of interesting vocabulary and punctuation. Your review also needs to be informative and interesting to engage your reader and make them want to listen to your recommendation.

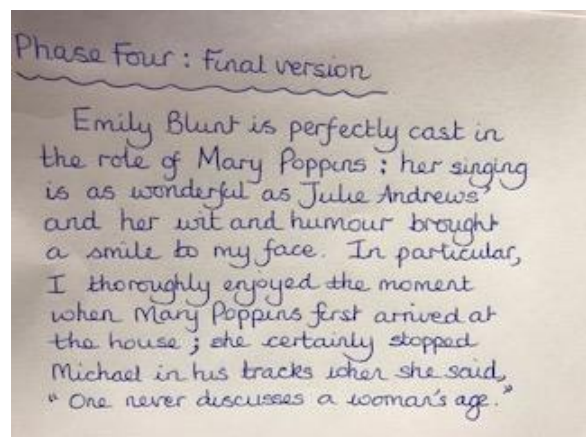
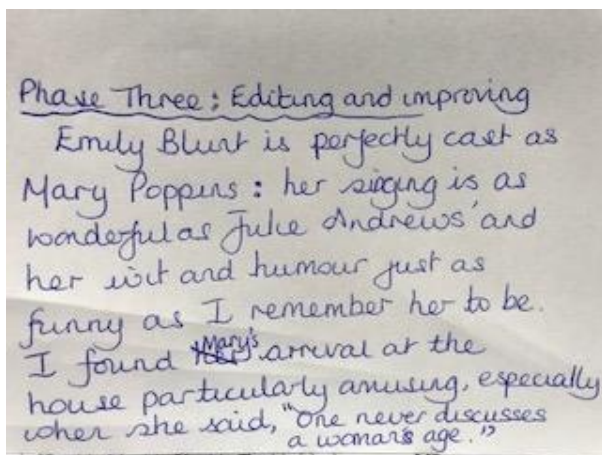
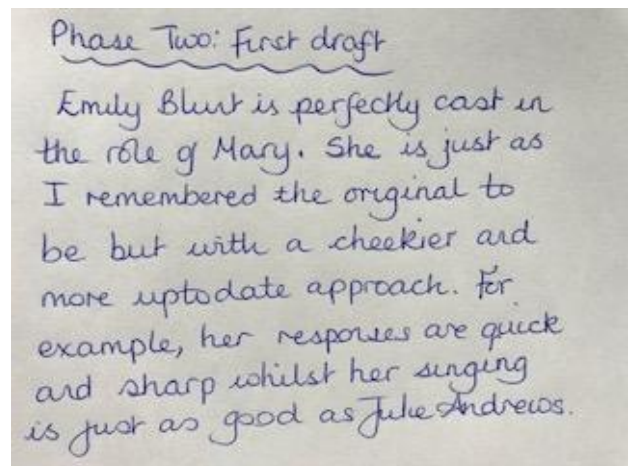
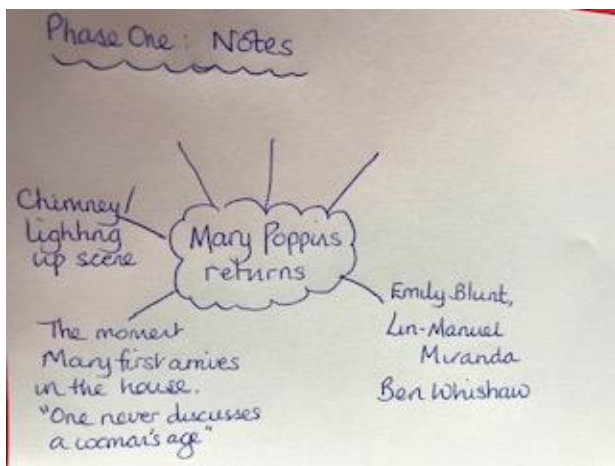
Phase Three: Editing and improving

Read through your work and check that it makes sense to you. Identify ways to improve the overall content of your work. Do you need to check some of your spellings in a dictionary? Have you used fronted adverbials and conjunctions to help your work flow? Have you written enough as I would expect this completed work to be at least one and a half sides of your green theme book.

Phase Four: Final version

Having made the changes you wish to make, rewrite your work as neatly as you can (using cursive handwriting of course!) on a new piece of paper and make sure that you are as proud of your work as you can be. Then, once you know that you have done the best that you can, ask an adult to read it through and discuss your review with you.

I have included part of the work from my own “phrases” for you to follow the writing process.



Can you see that in the final version I have used a colon to explain why Emily Blunt is perfect for the role; the phrase “in particular” to build cohesion, the adverb “thoroughly” to add depth and detail; a semi-colon to link two separate clauses; and finally inverted commas to quote Mary Poppins. I have also used a 5/6 word – can you spot it?