Film Analysis Guide
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Approaching the Film:
- Consider the title and any images associated with the movie (eg. Posters, DVD cover images, advertisements)
- Watch a trailer for the movie if available. What is highlighted by the trailer? How do they "tease you" to watch the movie?
- What do you know or have heard about the film before you watch it?

Opening:
- How does the movie begin?
- What is the setting of the movie? Time and place?
- What is used to introduce the characters and plot?
- Mise-en-scene – what goes into the production? Costumes? Sets? Lighting? Props?

Editing & Camera Work:
- How does the editing add to the story? Many cuts and edits or long scenes with fewer cuts?
- Camera positions? How doe we see the scenes?
- How are individual scenes ended? Fades? Dissolves? Abrupt cuts? Ect

Sound:
- Is there a laugh track?
- Is there music during the movie? How does this add to the story?
- Are recognizable songs used in the soundtrack?
- What sound effects are used? How does this add to the story?
- Is sound linked to the images or does it carry over from image to image?
- What role does silence play in the movie?

Point of View:
- How is the camera used to show a point of view?
- Who is telling the story and how is this shown?
- Who is narrating the movie? How does this effect the story?

Themes:
- Who are the central characters? What might each character represent?
- What kind of life or actions does the film want you to value? Criticize?
- Is there a coherent message or moral in the movie? If not, why not?
- How does the movie make you feel at the end? Have your views changed through the movie?