

Film Study Worksheet for an Informational Documentary

Read the questions before you watch the film so that you will know what to look for while you watch. At breaks during the showing or at the movie's end, you will have an opportunity to make short notes in the spaces provided. If you make notes while the movie is playing, make sure that your note taking doesn't interfere with carefully watching the film. You do not need to make any notes on the worksheet but after the movie is over you will be required to fully respond to the questions.

Complete the assignment by answering each question in paragraph form. Answers need to be complete and comprehensive, demonstrating that you paid attention to the film and thought about what was shown on the screen. You may use more than one paragraph if necessary. Be sure that the topic sentence of your first paragraph uses key words from the question. All responses should be in complete sentences using proper spelling, grammar and punctuation.

1. State the title of the film and the year it was released. Then briefly describe what the film is about.

Notes: _____

2. Identify the people, places, events, or aspects of people, society or nature that are the focus of this film. Describe and clarify the significance of each.

Notes: _____

3. List six facts described in the film that impressed you and explain how each fact relates to the film's premise or theme.

Notes: _____

4. Nonfiction can enrich viewers in several important ways. Describe any aspect of the film that showed you something you hadn't seen before, caused you to think in a new way, or helped you understand something more thoroughly than before. In addition, describe how it changed your thinking.

Notes: _____

5. Was there anything that you saw or heard in the film that was unconvincing or which seemed out of place?

Notes: _____

6. What particularly appealed to you in the cinematic presentation of the film, such as the way in which particular scenes, images, or sounds were presented?

Notes: _____

7. If the filmmakers were to ask you how the film could be improved, what would you tell them? Describe the changes you would suggest in detail and the reasons for your suggestions.

Notes: _____

8. If someone asked you whether you would recommend this film, how would you respond? Fully explain your reasons.

Notes: _____

Updated 2015. © by TeachWithMovies.com, Inc. The public and teachers are licensed to use this worksheet for personal and classroom use. See <http://www.teachwithmovies.org/terms-of-use.html>.