



# **GCSE MARKING SCHEME**

**FILM STUDIES**

**SUMMER 2014**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The marking schemes which follow were those used by WJEC for the Summer 2014 examination in GCSE FILM STUDIES. They were finalised after detailed discussion at examiners' conferences by all the examiners involved in the assessment. The conferences were held shortly after the papers were taken so that reference could be made to the full range of candidates' responses, with photocopied scripts forming the basis of discussion. The aim of the conferences was to ensure that the marking schemes were interpreted and applied in the same way by all examiners.

It is hoped that this information will be of assistance to centres but it is recognised at the same time that, without the benefit of participation in the examiners' conferences, teachers may have different views on certain matters of detail or interpretation.

WJEC regrets that it cannot enter into any discussion or correspondence about these marking schemes.

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**GCSE Film Studies**

**Paper 1: Exploring Film (1 hour 30 minutes)**

*Answer all the questions.*

**Read the questions before viewing the extract. You will be given 3 minutes for this.**

The extract is taken from *Fantastic 4: Rise of the Silver Surfer* (USA, 2007). Reed and Sue, two members of the Fantastic Four, are about to be married. The wedding is disrupted by the arrival of the Silver Surfer.

- Q.1**
- (a)** Identify **one** example of sound used in this extract. (1)
  - (b)** Briefly explain how this example of sound is used to create meaning for the audience. (2)
  - (c)** Explain how **two** of the following are used to involve the audience in the action:
    - editing
    - camerawork
    - visual or special effects
    - mise-en-scène.(7)

**[10]**

<b>AO2</b>	<b>Explore, respond to and evaluate a range of films and topics, including their own pre-production and production work, using key film concepts and appropriate terminology.</b>	<b>Marks</b>
(a)	<i>Identify <b>one</b> example of sound used in this extract.</i> Identifies <b>one</b> example of <i>sound</i> .	1
(b)	<i>Briefly explain how this example of sound is used to create meaning for the audience.</i> Basic explanation Adequate/good explanation	1 2
(c)	<i>For <b>each</b> explanation of how micro features involves the audience:</i> Basic explanation. Written communication sufficiently accurate to make meaning clear. Adequate explanation. Written communication reasonably accurate. Good explanation. Written communication controlled, clear and generally accurate. Additional mark for an excellent overall response. Written communication will be controlled and clear, with an appropriate use of specialist terminology. High degree of accuracy.	1 2 3 +1

**Notes**

- (a) Any relevant example of sound identified from the extract (e.g., the whirring of the helicopter blades) is to be given credit. An example must be identified. 'Diegetic sound' on its own should not be credited.
- (b) 'Create meaning' will relate to the filmmakers' intention and/or audience reaction.
- (c) To achieve higher marks, the link between the examples chosen and involvement of the audience must be made clear. 'Involvement' is a deliberately broad term to enable the candidates to engage with a range of potential meanings and/or audience reactions. Do not penalise confusion of 'visual' with 'special' effects, although better answers will know the difference.

- Q.2 (a)** Identify **one** superpower used in the extract. (1)
- (b)** What is the importance of this superpower? (3)
- (c)** How are superpowers used in **two other** Superhero movies you have studied? (6)

[10]

<b>AO1</b>	<b>Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how films communicate meanings, evoke personal responses and engage audiences.</b>	<b>Marks</b>
(a)	<i>Identify one Superpower used in this extract.</i> Identifies one <i>superpower</i> used.	1
(b)	<i>What is the importance of this superpower?</i> Basic explanation of why importance. Adequate explanation with some detail. Good detailed explanation.	1 2 3
(c)	<i>How are superpowers used in two other Superhero movies you have studied?</i> Basic explanation. Written communication basic but sufficiently accurate to make meaning clear. Adequate explanation. Written communication limited but sufficiently accurate to make meaning clear. Good explanation. Written communication clear and accurate.	1-2 3-4 5-6

### Notes

- (a) This will relate to the characters on screen. Sue Richards (née Storm)/the Invisible girl's invisibility / force field powers, Reed Richards/Mr Fantastic's ability to stretch, Johnny Storm/Human Torch's flame based ability, Ben Grimm/The Thing's strength and invulnerability and Norrin Radd/The Silver Surfer's ability to fly/control matter on a sub-atomic level. Any relevant identification or description should be credited.
- (b) A basic explanation will typically describe the importance of the power to the character and what it allows them to do. An adequate explanation will go into more detail as to how the power serves the sequence. A good explanation may also discuss its wider importance to aspects such as the team, visually or to the narrative of the extract. Overall the distinction between 'basic', 'adequate' and 'good' is about detail and depth of explanation.
- (c) The stronger answers will compare and contrast with a secure knowledge of the genre through two other films. More sophisticated ('good') answers may even highlight the contrast between superpowered heroes and non-superpowered heroes and the concept of the meta-human. Discussion may also include the blessing/curse nature of superpowers. Look for examples of similar and different uses within the genre. Overall the distinction between basic, adequate and good is about detail and depth of discussion.

**Q.3** How do film posters create interest in Superhero movies?  
You may refer to the resource material to help you.

**[10]**

<b>AO2</b>	<b>Explore, respond to and evaluate a range of films and topics, including their own pre-production and production work, using key film concepts and appropriate terminology.</b>	<b>Marks</b>
	<p><i>How do film posters create interest in Superhero movies?</i></p> <p>Basic, limited explanation. Written communication sufficiently accurate to make meaning clear.</p> <p>Adequate explanation. Written communication accurate and meaning is clearly expressed.</p> <p>Good explanation. Written communication is good and meaning is clearly expressed.</p> <p>Excellent detailed explanation. Written communication is in appropriate style and meaning is clearly expressed. Appropriate terminology is used accurately.</p>	<p>1-3</p> <p>4-6</p> <p>7-9</p> <p>10</p>

**Notes**

If referring to the resource material, the discussion of individual aspects of the resource materials (or others) needs to relate to their interest and market appeal to an audience or target audiences. We are looking for some appreciation of how posters work as marketing / promotional tools i.e. generating and/or increasing ticket sales and/or interest. Explanations should consider each aspect individually not just rely on a generic 'attract attention' response. Sophisticated answers (upper end of 'good' or 'excellent') may discuss the differing functions of a teaser/main poster. Answers may show an appreciation of how posters work as part of a coherent campaign of a multitude of poster formats and other promotional items. Above all the focus should be on the marketing function of posters (and not rely on textual analysis of posters).

**Q.4** You have been asked to put together POW!!, a season of films celebrating Superhero movies to be shown at your local cinema.

- (a) Choose **three** key Superhero movies for your season.(3)
- (b) Explain the reasons for your choices.(6)
- (c) Design and annotate a poster to promote POW!! Consider:
  - Superhero movie conventions
  - Poster layout and design. (8)
- (d) Suggest a suitable free gift for your season. Explain how this will attract audiences. (3)

[20]

AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how films communicate meanings, evoke personal responses and engage audiences.	Marks
(a)	Choose <b>three</b> key Superhero movies for your season. (3) 1 mark for each Superhero movie listed	1-3
(b)	Explain the reasons for your choices. (6) 1 mark for each adequate reason for a film choice. <i>This is a good film because</i> 1 mark per individual/differentiated reason. Written communication sufficiently accurate to make meaning clear. Good reasons. <i>I think this film is significant because...</i> 1-2 additional marks for answers which show some understanding of the importance to the genre, to a 5 mark maximum. Written communication reasonably accurate. Excellent reasons, detailed, and appropriate. Excellence may be indicated by referring to a theme for the season or similar. Written communication uses appropriate style, clear sense of audience conveyed.	3x1  5  6
(c)	Design and annotate a poster to promote POW!! Basic design. Written and visual communication although basic is sufficiently accurate to make meaning clear. Adequate, reasonably effective design with some basic annotation or labelling. Written and visual communication reasonably appropriate. Good, detailed and effective design with appropriate annotation. Written and visual communication is in appropriate style.	1-2  3-5  6-8
(d)	Suggest a suitable free gift for your season. Explain how this will attract audiences. Basic knowledge and understanding of the ways in which a free gift might be relevant and help attracts an audience and help to sell the event. Written communication reasonably accurate. Adequate knowledge and understanding of the ways in which a free gift might be relevant and help attracts an audience and help to sell the event. Written communication, controlled, clear and generally accurate. Good knowledge and understanding of the ways in which a free gift might be relevant and help attracts an audience and help to sell the event. Written communication excellent, confident and well-integrated use of specialist terminology.	1  2  3

## **Notes**

- (a) The films can be the ones already featured on the paper. They should be genuine Superhero movies, which have already been released. Some consideration can however be given to plausible, made-up superhero films if their invention is based on a good knowledge and understanding of codes & conventions. Reference to question (b) can be made to confirm the level of knowledge and understanding.
- (b) The basic answers will be reasons why candidates think a film is good and/or why they enjoyed them. The better answers will suggest that the choices demonstrate how the films may be important to the genre for creative and/or commercial reasons. The more sophisticated higher mark answers will show some evidence of a definite link or theme to the season/selections; although the theme can be inferred from the nature of the selections. For example a 6 mark answer might choose Superman (1978), X-Men (2000) and Marvel Avengers Assemble (2012) as landmarks in the commercial growth of the genre as well as the creative development of the genre; or they may have been chosen in terms of their technical ability to bring comic book images to the screen with an increasing degree of verisimilitude.
- (c) As in the past, the better answers to this question will be informed by knowledge of both the chosen format (posters) and genre conventions. Annotation is explanation not just labelling. The annotation is an opportunity for students to clarify their intent and meaning in securing the marks. Even in high quality designs, a lack of annotation may limit their marks to 4 or 5 out of 8, although it is expected that in the best answers annotation will be present. The question is an attempt to assess how the candidate can use creatively what they have learned and examiners should exercise their judgement of this.
- (d) Here better answers will again demonstrate candidates' ideas and creativity in suggesting a relevant 'freebie'; good ideas should receive credit. This should be balanced to some degree by cost considerations, so for example giving away DVDs may well swell attendance but would not be cost effective so should not be awarded full marks. The better answers will consider in some way the link between the free gift and targeting audiences, which could range from pre-existing fans to those completely new to the genre.

## **Overall Note**

The above notes to the mark scheme are intended as general guidance and should not be considered to be prescriptive in any way.

**GCSE Film Studies**  
**Paper 2: Exploring Film Outside Hollywood (1 hour)**

*Answer all the questions on one of the following films:*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <i>Amélie</i> (Jeunet, France, 2001)<br><i>Bend It Like Beckham</i> (Chadha, UK, 2002)<br><i>The Boy in Striped Pyjamas</i><br>(Herman, UK/USA, 2008)<br><i>The Devil's Backbone</i> (Del Toro, Mexico, 2001)<br><i>Persepolis</i> (Satrapi & Parronaud, France, 2007) | <i>Rabbit-Proof Fence</i> (Noyce, Australia, 2002)<br><i>Ratcatcher</i> (Ramsay, UK, 1999)<br><i>Tsotsi</i> (Hood, South Africa, 2005)<br><i>Yasmin</i> (Gleenaan, UK, 2004)<br><i>The Wave</i> ( Gansel, Germany, 2008) |
|--|--|

*You have **one** hour to answer all three questions.*

- Q.1 (a)** Identify **one** theme or issue introduced in the opening of your chosen film. (1)
- (b)** Briefly explain why you think this theme or issue is important. (2)
- (c)** Explore how film language used to highlight this theme or issue in the opening of your chosen film. Consider **one** or **two** of the following:
- camerawork
  - sound
  - editing
  - colour.(7)
- [10]**

AO2	Explore, respond to and evaluate a range of films and topics, including their own pre-production and production work, topics using key film concepts and appropriate terminology.	Marks
(a)	<i>Identify one theme or issue introduced in the opening of your chosen film. (1)</i>  Identification of one relevant theme or issue.	1
(b)	<i>Briefly explain why you think this theme or issue is important.(2)</i>  Basic explanation of why this theme or issue is important. Written communication sufficiently accurate to make meaning clear.  Good explanation of why this theme or issue is important. Written communication clear and generally accurate.	1  2
(c)	<i>Explore how film language is used to highlight this theme or issue in the opening of your chosen film. Consider one or two of the following: camerawork, sound, editing or colour. (7)</i>  Basic description of how film language is used to highlight this theme or issue in the opening of your chosen film. Adequate description of how film language is used to highlight this theme or issue in the opening of your chosen film. Good description of how film language is used to highlight this theme or issue in the opening of your chosen film. An additional mark for very good, detailed explanation.	1-2  3-4  5-6  +1



- Q.2. (a)** Name **two** characters from your chosen film who have an important relationship in your chosen film. (2)
- (b)** Briefly explain the importance of this relationship in the film. (3)
- (c)** Explore how costume **and** body language help us to understand this relationship in one key sequence from your chosen film. (7)
- (d)** What does this relationship suggest about the themes or issues of your chosen film. (8)

[20]

<b>AO2</b>	<b>Explore, respond to and evaluate a range of films and topics, including their own pre-production and production work, topics using key film concepts and appropriate terminology.</b>	<b>Marks</b>
<i>(a)</i>	<i>Name two characters from your chosen film who have an important relationship in your chosen film. (2)</i>  Identifies two characters who have an important relationship but some doubt whether the relationship is important. Identifies two characters who have an important relationship accurately.	1 2
<i>(b)</i>	<i>Briefly explain the importance of this relationship in the film. (3)</i>  Basic explanation of the importance of this relationship. Adequate explanation of the importance of this relationship. Good explanation of the importance of this relationship.	1 2 3
<i>(c)</i>	<i>Explore how costume and body language help us to understand this relationship in one key sequence from your chosen film. (7)</i>  Basic exploration of how costume and body language help us to understand this relationship in one key sequence. Written communication is basic. Adequate exploration of how costume and body language help us to understand this relationship in one key sequence. Written communication generally accurate. Good exploration of how costume and body language help us to understand this relationship in one key sequence. Written communication is clear and accurate. An additional mark for a very good, detailed exploration	1-2 3-4 5-6 +1
<i>(d)</i>	<i>What does this relationship suggest about the themes or issues of your chosen film.(8)</i>  Basic discussion of what this relationship suggests about the themes or issues of the chosen film. Written communication is basic. Adequate discussion of what this relationship suggests about the themes or issues of the chosen film. Written communication clear and generally accurate. Good (7) or very good (8) discussion of what this relationship suggests about the themes or issues of the chosen film. Written communication controlled, clear and accurate.	1-3 4-6 7-8

**Q.3.** Write a detailed review of your chosen film for a film magazine.  
You may include **some** of the following:

- background information on the film including the director
- film language that was particularly interesting
- characters and how they are represented
- important themes or issues
- your own views of the film.

[20]

*The areas candidates choose to include in their review may vary.*

*The following grid indicates levels of performance.*

*Further clarification will be given at the examiners' standardisation conference*

AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how films communicate meanings, evoke personal responses and engage audiences.	Marks
	A limited approach to the review which is likely to include little if any reference to suggested areas. Approach categorised by a cursory reference to the chosen film and/or suggested areas.	1-3
	A basic approach to the review which is likely to include minimal reference to suggested areas. A basic response to the chosen film is evident.	4-6
	An uneven approach to the review which may include some reference to suggested areas. An uneven response to the chosen film is evident.	7-9
	A reasonable approach to the review which is likely to include reference to several of the suggested areas. A reasonable response to the chosen film is evident.	10-12
	A good approach to the review which may cover several of the suggested areas. A good response to the chosen film is evident.	13-16
	An excellent approach to the review which may deal convincingly with several of the suggested areas. An excellent response to the chosen film is evident.	17-20



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