

Question Prompts for Moving Image Texts

THE THREE CS

CAMERA

What can be seen in the frame & why?
What camera movement is happening & why?
What height or angle is the camera at & why?
What might be anything excluded from the frame?
If the camera is the narrator, what is it saying?
How long is the shot?
What was the previous/next shot & why?

CHARACTER

What do we know (imagine) about this character?
What do the clothes tell us?
Where do they live?
What do they eat?
What are their qualities? (emotional, skills, behaviour)
What is their motivation/aim/desire?
What are their obstacles to achieving their goal?

COLOUR

What does this colour mean?
Are any characters associated with a particular colour?
Is there a tone/colour scheme to the film?
Are the colours mostly light/dark?
Can colours change meaning?
How is light used in the film?

SETTING

What is the setting in terms of time(year/date/morning/evening)?
What is the setting in terms of place?
What is the setting in terms of genre?
How does the soundtrack support the setting?
How would the film be different if it was set in an alternative setting?
Is the set constructed or real? How do you know?
Is this the natural/comfortable setting for the characters?

SOUND

What does the sound track tell us?
How is music used?
What is the emotional content of the music?
Find out what “diegetic” means.
Identify diegetic sounds in the film.
What sounds are heard “off screen” or out of shot?

STORY

Discuss the story.
Does the story have a beginning, middle and end?
Is the story clear? If not how could the film makers make it clear?
How do all of the above contribute to the telling of the story?

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