# Opening impressions and other scenes

Goal: explain how screen choices shape or change an impression, then justify two choices for your own opening.

Name: _____ Date: _____

### Recall one opening from the previous lesson

Think for 1 minute. Write for 2 minutes: one remembered detail and the impression it created. Mark uncertain recall.

### Question 1 · What has this opening led you to expect?

Consider the people, the world and the kind of story you might be entering. What remains uncertain? Keep the two films' notes separate.

### Phantom Thread · Opening

State one expectation. Name a detail you saw or heard and explain the connection.

### Another scene: test the impression

Scene: _____
Name a new detail. Explain whether it supports or changes your opening impression.

### The Grand Budapest Hotel · Opening

State one expectation. Name a detail you saw or heard and explain the connection.

### Another scene: test the impression

Scene: _____
Name a new detail. Explain whether it supports or changes your opening impression.

Use brief notes. Leave each other-scene section until the later viewing. Choose a detail beyond the teacher's model.

# Develop and revise your explanation

Choose one opening passage or another scene from either film. Write for 10 minutes. Use two precise details, including one you chose independently.

Film: _____ Scene: _____

## Question 2 · How has the filmmaker created those expectations?

Choose one specific moment. Explain how the images, sound or editing shape your understanding. A later scene may support or change the opening impression.

Support if needed: "The choice of ___ suggests ___ because ___." A paragraph of four to six sentences is usually enough.

## Revise one connection

Underline your two details. Use 4 quiet minutes to improve a sentence below. Keep your first attempt above.

## Question 3 · What gives you a reason to keep watching?

Return to the opening of your chosen film. Explain what interests you, and why. A supported negative response is also valid.

**Alternate question 3:** Does this opening give you enough to follow while leaving something to discover? Explain where it finds that balance, or where it loses you. Use this instead of question 3 if directed.

# Compare frames and lighting

Use paused frames and clips from both films. Label each scene. Describe visible choices before explaining their possible effects.

### Retrieve one connection

Recall one detail from either film and the impression it helped create. Take 2 minutes.

### Frame 1 · Phantom Thread  Scene: _____

Name a visible design or lighting choice. Explain what it suggests.

### Frame 2 · The Grand Budapest Hotel  Scene: _____

Name a visible choice and explain its effect on a role or atmosphere.

### A third detail and its connection

Choose another detail from either frame, beyond the teacher's model. Explain how two details in that frame work together.

### Lighting A · Phantom Thread  Scene: _____

Describe contrast, shadow edges and which areas are lit.

### Lighting B · The Grand Budapest Hotel  Scene: _____

Describe the same features in this clip.

### Compare the lighting and explain its effect

Explain one visible difference. Connect it to an impression of a person, relationship or atmosphere. Use 2 quiet minutes for the lighting notes and comparison.

**Useful terms:** High-key lighting is bright and even, with few deep shadows. Low-key lighting has stronger contrast and deeper shadows. Hard light gives a distinct shadow edge; soft light gives a gradual edge. Describe what the clips show; do not guess unseen lamps.

# Develop your concept note

Use your existing idea. Work for 16 minutes, then revise. Either film may inform or challenge a choice. Explain how the reference fits your intention.

### Situation

Name a person, a place and an initial action.

### Tone and intended impression

State the feeling or attitude you want to suggest. Explain what viewers should infer about the person or world.

### Choice 1 and its reason

Propose a specific choice you could make. Explain how it could create your intended impression.

### Choice 2 and its reason

Propose a second feasible choice and explain its effect. At least one of your two choices must concern mise-en-scène.

### Information

State what viewers could understand at this point and what may remain uncertain.

### Research

Name one question about your idea and a suitable next reference. Explain how today's film analysis informed or challenged one choice.

If undecided, use a familiar person, place and action as a provisional start. Keep all four pages with your existing C1 research. There is no separate submission or grade.