

Unit 3 and 4 Media: Holiday Homework

The following homework relates to Unit 3: Outcome 1 (Narrative) that you will be studying throughout Term 1. The second part of the holiday homework relates to your SAT (short films) that you will be working on throughout Terms 1-3.

Narrative

Watch the films Into the Wild (Sean Penn, 2007) and American History X (Tony Kaye, 1998) and then answer the following questions related to both films.

1. What is the main storyline of both Into the Wild and American History X?
2. From whose point of view is the story told from in American History X and Into the Wild? Is there more than one point of view? If so, who? How do we know whose point of view is presented?
3. What are the sub-plots (side stories other than the main story) of Into the Wild and American History X?
4. What main themes are explored throughout American History X and Into the Wild? Provide detailed examples from both films to support your response.
5. How do the opening sequences of American History X and Into the Wild establish narrative possibilities (possible story, themes, setting and characters to be explored in the remainder of the film)?
6. What are Chris' main character motivation(s) in Into the Wild? In your response consider:
 - The decisions and actions he makes.
 - What personal philosophy does he believe in?
 - How does he live his life?
 - What changes occur in his character development throughout the film?
 - When we leave this character is he the same person as when we met him? Explain.
7. What are Derek's main character motivation(s) in American History X? In your response consider:
 - The decisions and actions he makes.
 - What personal philosophy does he believe in?
 - How does he live his life?
 - What changes occur in his character development throughout the film?
 - When we leave this character is he the same person as when we met him? Explain.
8. What are Danny's main character motivations in American History X? In your response consider:
 - List the decisions and actions he makes.
 - What personal philosophy does he believe in?
 - How does he live his life?
 - What changes occur in his character development throughout the film?
 - When we leave this character is he the same person as when we met him? Explain.