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.