

# Film Studies (OCR)

## A Level Preparation Work

**Welcome to A Level Film Studies!** The tasks below are designed to support and prepare you to start the course.

### Short Film Viewings

So that you are ready for September, please watch as many of these short films below as possible. The intention is to introduce you to a wide range of film genres, ideologies and forms in order to challenge your thinking about film.

#### **Short films:**

*Meshes of the Afternoon*, Maya Deren 1943 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSY0TA-ttMA>

*The Wrong Trousers*, Nick Park 1993 <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x7ub14w>

*Wasp*, Andrea Arnold 2003 – streaming on Prime, Disney+ and Apple TV+

*A Girl's Own Story*, Jane Campion 1989 <https://vimeo.com/41180637>

*Slap*, Nick Rowland 2015 <https://www.shortoftheweek.com/2016/06/11/slap/>

*An Irish Goodbye*, R. White + T. Berkeley, 2022 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/m001k2z5/an-irish-goodbye>

### Short Film Review and Presentation

Once you have watched several, if not all, of the short films above your task will be to do the following:

- Write a 500-700 word review of ONE film (you choose) and bring this to your first lesson. You should use this structure to help you:
  - ✓ Film title. You could also include a star rating here.
  - ✓ Introduction: what you expected from the film
  - ✓ Genre: what type of film is it? Does it have a message?
  - ✓ Plot: what happens in the film? Does the plot make sense? Is it easy enough to follow? Is it believable?
  - ✓ Characters: Who are the main characters and what are they like? Who are the actors playing these parts, and are they good in the parts?
  - ✓ What is the camerawork/ animation like? If there are special effects, what are they like? Are there beautiful scenes? Are there moments when the camera is used in an interesting way?
  - ✓ Did you enjoy the film? Why/why not? What were its good and bad points?
  - ✓ Write about a scene you particularly enjoyed or remembered. Why was it good/ memorable?
  - ✓ Would you recommend this film? To what sorts of people? Why?
  - ✓ Are there any other films you can compare this film to?
- Then prepare a PPT presentation to explain your findings about this film - You may want to use screen shots to talk through some of your favourite moments

If you would like to try and use some Film terminology in your presentation, which will be invaluable for your first unit and beyond, use these links to assist you in learning about:

- Mise-en-scene <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3euNFd7-TCg>
- Cinematography, editing and sound: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BFwMRVwrKcA>

### Want more?

Check out the BBC Inside Cinema documentaries available on iPlayer:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p07f7m9q/inside-cinema>

Follow film critic Mark Kermode on Twitter:

[https://twitter.com/KermodeMovie?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Egoogle|twcamp%5Eserp|twgr%5Eauthor](https://twitter.com/KermodeMovie?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle|twcamp%5Eserp|twgr%5Eauthor)

**If you would like further information about the Film Studies course, please contact Mr Simpson (Deputy Director of English KS5) on [msimpson@wellswayschool.com](mailto:msimpson@wellswayschool.com)**