

TODAY'S AGENDA 9-19-2011

- ✘ Quiz – Lesson 1
- ✘ Review – Analyzing Symbolism In Film
- ✘ Lesson 2: A Film's Narrative Structure
 - + Learn about Voice Overs
 - + An Overview the Narrative Structure In Film
 - + Act 1 – Expository Scenes

Chapter 1 : Lesson 2

A FILM'S NARRATIVE STRUCTURE

WHAT TO WRITE DOWN

- ✘ Text in **BLUE** is for your notes.
- ✘ Text in **BLACK** is for directions or extra information.

VOICE TALENT

- ✘ You hear voice talents all the time:
 - + Radio, television (commercials especially), and film.
- ✘ Type of voice needed depends on the project –
 - + Example: Voice needed for a used car sale ad on TV would not be the same as voice needed to narrate a documentary film. The TV ad needs an exciting voice to excite consumers. Documentary voice needs someone to tell the story.

VOICE TALENT

- ✘ Voice talents still have to audition for part. Looks are not really important but the quality of the voice, clear enunciation, diction and perfect vocabulary are necessary to land the job.

VOICE TALENT EXAMPLES

- ✘ Morgan Freeman – War of the Worlds
- ✘ “Mr. Opportunity” – Honda Commercials
- ✘ James Earl Jones – Darth Vader!
 - + How much do you think George Lucas had to pay for the voice over in Episode III? Rumor has it they had to pay him 1 million dollars per word.

Two Ways to Read a Film

All film stories have two basic elements:

Content

What is the story about?

Watch the film to learn *what* happens to whom and *why*.

Narrative Structure

How does the director tell the story?

Watch the film to analyze *how* the story is constructed

Often *what* the film is about will determine *how* the director plans and arranges the shots and scenes.

MORE KEY TERMS

- ✘ Content: setting, characters, conflict, plot and theme.
- ✘ Narrative Structure: involves analyzing how the filmmaker shows characters, setting, conflict, plot or theme.

KEY TERM: VOICE OVER NARRATION

- ✘ Voice Over Narration – a person speaking during a shot in a film when not present on screen.
 - + is NOT a *basic story element* such as a character is.
 - + IS a *narrative technique*.
 - + IS a technique to present information to the audience *without* actually showing it.

READING ACTIVITY 1-4 “A TIRED OLD TOWN”

- ✘ You will be broken up into groups of 3.
- ✘ Read the script aloud to each other...try to read it as though you were the voice over for this film. Be creative, make it interesting.
- ✘ We will listen to 2-3 groups read aloud to see which group presents the most “creative” voiceover for an “academy award” from Mr. Watson.

READING ACTIVITY 1-4 “TIRED OLD TOWN”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ✘ What necessary background information about setting does the voice-over provide in this scene?
- ✘ Who is speaking?
- ✘ What necessary information about Scout does the VO provide?
- ✘ What do you learn about Scout’s character based on her first spoken lines in the film?

VOICE OVER ASSIGNMENT

- ✘ You are going to write your own “voice-over” for a movie.
- ✘ Think of a scene from your life that you can describe in 150 or more words. It can be from your childhood; it could be current.
- ✘ Write a voice over narration of 150 words or more.
- ✘ Use class time to write down your ideas / narration.
- ✘ DUE Tomorrow In Class.