

Worksheet

Dominant conventions of the Horror Film

Conventions are elements that allow us to recognise a film as being part of a genre, and help us to know what to expect from a film.

TASK - In pairs or groups

Identify the conventions of the Horror Film used in these films. You should write your answers under the following headings.

Setting (Where is the film set?)

Iconography (What kind of buildings, costumes, objects, machines, cars, etc are familiar aspects of the horror genre)

Style (What aspects of the film's style are common to the horror genre?)

Narrative (What aspects of the story are characteristic of horror?)

Range of characters and relationships with each other

Themes (Are there any social themes or messages in the film?)

Audience response (What is the particular appeal of this film to an audience? What audience would it appeal to?)

Worksheet

Dominant conventions of the Science Fiction Film

Conventions are elements that allow us to recognise a film as being part of a genre, and help us to know what to expect from a film.

TASK - In pairs or groups

Identify the conventions of the Science Fiction Film used in these films. You should write your answers under the following headings.

Setting (Where is the film set?)

Iconography (What kind of buildings, costumes, objects, machines, cars, etc are familiar aspects of the Sci-fi genre)

Style (What aspects of the film's style are common to the Sci-fi genre?)

Narrative (What aspects of the story are characteristic of Sci-fi?)

Range of characters and relationships with each other

Themes (Are there any social themes or messages in the film?)

Audience response (What is the particular appeal of this film to an audience? What audience would it appeal to?)

Worksheet

After viewing the film *The Untouchables*, answer the following questions

Film language

What genre conventions can you identify in the film?

To what extent does *The Untouchables* conform to the conventions of the Classical Hollywood style?

Can you describe one scene that you feel illustrates the characteristics of the continuity style?

How is suspense generated in the extended scene in the train station? What techniques does the director use?

Can you identify one scene that is particularly remarkable for its use of either

1. camera technique (framing, shooting angle, movement, etc)
2. mise-en-scene (setting, costume/make-up, performance and lighting)
3. editing
4. sound (including music)