

## **IB Film Year 2 HL & SL Summer Work**

To prepare for the IB Film Comparative Study, all Year 2 students must complete detailed screening notes for the two films they have selected for their Comparative Study. Your notes should go beyond plot summary and focus on film elements such as cinematography, editing, sound, mise-en-scène, performance, and narrative structure. Be sure to identify specific scenes, techniques, and examples that could be used later in your Comparative Study. Strong screening notes completed over the summer will make the research, analysis, and writing process much easier when we return in September.

For each film, take notes on:

- Basic film information (title, director, year, country/culture of origin)
- Major themes and messages
- Filmmaker intentions (What is the filmmaker trying to communicate?)
- Cultural, historical, or social context
- Important characters and character development
- Key scenes (include timestamps when possible)
- Cinematography
  - Camera angles
  - Camera movement
  - Shot types and framing
  - Lighting
  - Color
- Mise-en-scène
  - Setting
  - Costumes
  - Props
  - Makeup
  - Actor positioning/blocking
- Editing
  - Pacing
  - Transitions
  - Continuity or stylistic editing choices
- Sound
  - Dialogue
  - Music/score
  - Sound effects
  - Silence
- Symbolism and motifs
- Recurring visual or audio patterns
- Memorable quotes (if relevant)

- Similarities and differences between the two films
- Specific examples that could support a comparison of film techniques, themes, or cultural contexts

**Tip:** Focus on collecting evidence, not writing full paragraphs. Detailed bullet points with scene examples are often more useful than long summaries.