

Charlie’s Country

Close reading worksheet



Scene_____

Mise-en-scene

- Focus on what you see in this scene. Describe each element and explain the effect of the visual juxtaposition of each shot.
- Take note of the costuming of characters. Are certain shades or particular styles used? What is suggested about personality, status, dreams and desires?
- How does the setting contribute to the narrative?
- How do décor and props add to our understanding of the characters involved?
- Describe the composition of the characters as a group and in the frame.
- How does what you see work on a symbolic level, acting as a motif or metaphor? Explain.

Viewing Notes

Cinematography

- Pay attention to the variety of camera angles used. Are close-ups used? What is their intended purpose? Take note of any other camera angles that convey meaning.
- What different camera shots are used? How does the focus of a shot affect the audience’s perception of the scene? Are there mobile shots (such as panning, tracking, crane shot or dolly shots)? How do these compare with static shots?
- What types of lighting are employed and what is the effect?
- What kind of relationship does the camera create with the various characters?

Viewing Notes

Character Development

- Identify the major and minor characters that drive the narrative in this scene. What purpose do they serve?
- Construct a profile for each character. Identify style of speech, dialogue, tone of voice, actions and body language.
- How do the characters interact with each other in the scene?
- What are their major strengths, flaws, weaknesses? What do they value or believe in? What are their motivations?
- How is the relationship between characters represented?

Viewing Notes

Soundtrack

- What types of sounds can you identify within the scene? How do these sounds complement the imagery and contribute to character development?
- How do these sounds indicate mood, time or action?
- Pinpoint diegetic (part of the film’s story world) and non-diegetic sounds (if used) within the film.
- Dialogue, like actions and gestures, contributes to character development. Analyse the dialogue in this scene.
- What do the characters’ tone, pitch and selection of words reveal about them?
- How does the music contribute to the narrative?

Viewing Notes