

A-Level Film Studies

Please see below a list of recommended resources for this course. Using some of these will significantly improve your child's chance of success in their exams. Revising with your child and supporting them with a structured timetable is proven to be highly effective.

1. Re-watch key films studied on the course: *Sunrise*, *Pan's Labyrinth*, *Parasite*, *Amy*, *Cléo from 5 to 7*, *Trainspotting*, *This Is England*, *Captain Fantastic*, *La La Land*, *Do the Right Thing*, and *Vertigo*
2. Make revision notes on the context, aesthetics and key scenes for each film
3. Practice answering questions under timed conditions. These can be found on Google Classroom organised by film topic, or here: https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/film-studies-asa-level/#tab_assessmentresources
4. Plan questions using the PEEL structure and create a bank of these plans for revision.
5. Focus revision based on the study area for each film:
 - *Sunrise* – German Expressionism
 - *Parasite* & *Pan's Labyrinth* – Cultural/political context
 - *Captain Fantastic* & *La La Land* – Narrative and ideology
 - *Amy* – Documentary techniques and filmmakers' theories
 - *This Is England* & *Trainspotting* – Ideology and narrative
 - *Cléo from 5 to 7* – Experimental cinema
 - *Do the Right Thing* & *Vertigo* – Auteur theory; Old vs New Hollywood
6. Watch other films outside the curriculum, such as films by the same director, period or movement. Some suggestions: *Nosferatu*, *The Shape of Water*, *Mickey 17*, *Senna*, *Little Miss Sunshine*, *Whiplash*, *La Bonheur*, *Rear Window*, *School Daze*, *Kes*, *Fish Tank*
7. Useful YouTube Channels for further knowledge:
 - **BFI (British Film Institute):** <https://www.youtube.com/@BritishFilmInstitute>
 - **Every Frame a Painting:** <https://www.youtube.com/@everyframeapainting>
 - **Lessons from the Screenplay:** <https://www.youtube.com/@LessonsfromtheScreenplay>
 - **Thomas Flight:** <https://www.youtube.com/@ThomasFlight>
 - **StudioBinder:** <https://www.youtube.com/@StudioBinder>
 - **ScreenPrism:** <https://www.youtube.com/@ScreenPrism>
8. Articles from **Sight & Sound Magazine** are available to students via **Google Classroom**. These are useful for developing critical viewpoints and understanding film contexts.