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GCSE FILM STUDIES COMPONENT 1

Key Developments in US Film
1 hour 30 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen. Do not use correction fluid.

- Answers to all questions must be written in the separate answer book provided.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the spaces at the top of the answer book.
- At the end of the examination, the answer book must be handed to the invigilator. Answer **all** questions on your chosen films in **Sections A and B**.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The allocation of marks is given at the end of each question or part-question. The number of marks indicates the length of the response required.

Candidates are reminded that the use of specialist film language will be assessed in questions 1 (c), 2 (c), 3 and 5.

You are advised to spend approximately **60 minutes** on **Section A**, **5 minutes** on **Section B** and **25 minutes** on **Section C**.

Answer all questions.

SECTION A: US Film Comparative Study

- *King Solomon's Mines* (Bennett & Marton, 1950) and *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (Spielberg, 1981)
- *Singin' in the Rain* (Donen & Kelly, 1952) and *Grease* (Kleiser, 1978)
- *Rear Window* (Hitchcock, 1954) and *Witness* (Weir, 1985)
- *Rebel without a Cause* (Ray, 1955) and *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* (Hughes, 1986)
- *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (Siegel, 1956) and *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial* (Spielberg, 1982).

US film 1930-60

Answer **question 1** in relation to the film produced between **1930 and 1960** from your chosen comparative study films:

- *King Solomon's Mines* (1950)
- *Singin' in the Rain* (1952)
- *Rebel without a Cause* (1955)
- *Rear Window* (1954)
- *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956).

1.

(a) Identify **one** genre convention used in your chosen film. [1]

(b) Briefly outline why conventions are used in genre films. [4]

(c) Explore how the convention you have identified is used in **one** sequence from your chosen film. In your answer, refer to at least **one** key element of film (e.g. cinematography, mise-en-scène, editing or sound). [10]

US film 1961-90

Answer **question 2** in relation to the film produced between **1961 and 1990** from your chosen comparative study films:

- *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (1981)
- *Grease* (1978) • *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* (1986)
- *Witness* (1985) • *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial* (1982).

2.

(a) Identify **one** example of cinematography used in your chosen film. [1]

(b) Briefly explain what this example of cinematography typically suggests. [4]

(c) Explore how this example of cinematography is used in **one** sequence from your chosen film. [10]

US film comparative study

Answer **question 3** in relation to **both** your chosen comparative study films:

- *King Solomon's Mines* (1950) and *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (1981)
- *Singin' in the Rain* (1952) and *Grease* (1978)
- *Rear Window* (1954) and *Witness* (1985)
- *Rebel without a Cause* (1955) and *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* (1986)
- *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956) and *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial* (1982).

3. Compare how the same theme is explored in each of your comparative study films. In your answer, you should consider:

- how characters and narratives illustrate the theme you have identified
- similarities between the way the theme you have identified is explored in each of your films
- differences between the way the theme you have identified is explored in each of your films. [20]

SECTION B: Key developments in film and film technology

4.

(a) In which decade was the first full colour feature film produced? [1]

State the correct answer in your answer book: 1930s 1940s 1950s.

(b) Name **two** of the five major studios operating in Hollywood in the 1940s. [2]

(c) Briefly describe how **one** example of film technology is used in **one** of the US films you have studied. Name the film you have chosen. [2]

SECTION C: US independent film

Answer **question 5** on **one** of the following films:

- *Little Miss Sunshine* (Dayton/Faris, 2006)
- *Juno* (Reitman, 2007)
- *The Hurt Locker* (Bigelow, 2008)
- *Whiplash* (Chazelle, 2014)
- *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl* (Gomez-Rejon, 2015).

5. Explore how **one** example of specialist writing on the chosen film you have studied has deepened your understanding of the film. Refer to at least **one** sequence from your chosen film to illustrate your answer.

In your answer, you should:

- identify the example of specialist writing you are using in the box provided in your

answer book

- briefly describe **one** key idea from the example of specialist writing you have studied
- outline what this key idea suggests about your chosen film
- show how this idea compares with your own views on the film (use **one** sequence from your chosen film to illustrate this). [15]