

Looking at Movies: An Introduction to Film

Screening Worksheet

Chapter 1: What Is a Movie?

1. How would you describe the movie's presentation of space and time? Are there recognizable patterns in this presentation? At this early stage in your study of film, you might limit your observations to the types of shots and editing that are used to tell the story. (For example, are there more long shots that show the vastness of the space, or more close-ups to concentrate our attention on the small space around and among the characters? Does the editing flow smoothly from scene to scene, or does it call attention to itself by manipulating time in an obvious way?)
2. How would you describe this movie's use of light? At which points in the movie do qualities of light and dark become obvious?
3. How would you describe the *movement* in this movie? How much, and in what ways, does the camera move in this movie? Does the camera movement (or lack of camera movement) contribute to the movie overall? In what ways?
4. Imagine this movie existing as a play, a novel, a painting. How would each form differ from what you have seen on the screen?

