

WP2: Evaluation of a Pop Culture Text

For this assignment, you'll be asked to look at a single "pop culture text" and evaluate the text based on criteria that you create. Your paper will need to come to a conclusion about the text including a summary of the good and bad points and a rating, such as a star ranking, a grade, or a percentage.

The Basics

- Choose a single, **new** "pop culture text." Here, I am using the term "text" broadly to mean any tangible piece of language or art. Examples of a pop culture text might include a movie, TV episode, book, or piece of art. I'm open to other possibilities, but please check with me before beginning your project. The text **must be new to you**, meaning that you have not seen, heard, or read the text before the beginning of the project. The text could be newly released or just one that you've never experienced before.
- Develop a set of criteria on which to judge the text. The criteria should match the type of text that you've selected. For example, a horror movie might have very different criteria (make up, music, scariness) than a romantic comedy (humor, love story, chemistry between actors).
- Support all evaluations of the criteria with specific examples from the text. For example, if you've chosen a song or album and state that it has good lyrics, include a quotation of lyrics you find particularly good. If you've chosen a movie and state that it has poor special effects, include a picture of the bad effects (if possible).
- Come to some conclusion about the text. This may come in many forms. For example, you may simply summarize the good and bad points, you may give the text a star ranking, or you may give the text a grade.
- Include a link where people can view, read, or listen to your text if possible. Please only use legal links. Links to sites where people can purchase the text are acceptable if there is no place to sample the text for free.

The Audience

The audience is people who are interested in the genre you are evaluating (such as horror movies or rap albums) but who have not seen/heard this specific text.

Additional Requirements

All drafts must:

- Be a minimum of **1300 words**.
- Be double spaced
- Use Times New Roman font
- Have 1-inch margins
- Have a file name with your name, the assignment, and the draft (i.e. HyeSook Kim WP2 First Draft)

Learning Objectives

In this assignment, you will learn:

- To reflect deeply on a pop culture text.

- To create criteria by which something will be judged.
- To evaluate based on those criteria.
- To gather primary evidence from a text.
- To include an overall judgment based on evaluation.

Your assignment will be graded on the following:

- **Choice of Criteria:** The criteria are clear and are appropriate for the type of text that you've selected.
- **Evaluation of Criteria:** Each criterion is evaluated for good and bad points. This evaluation is based on compelling reasons drawn from the text.
- **Support for Evaluations:** The evaluation of each criterion includes specific examples from the text when possible. This may come in the form of quotes, screen shots, pictures, and so on.
- **Final Conclusion about the Text:** A final conclusion about the text is given. This conclusion is supported by evaluations of the criteria. For example, a review in which each of the criteria is judged negatively should have a negative conclusion.
- **Content Organization:** You have organized the content of your writing project in a reasonable way. Your information is easy to understand, and your points are easy to follow. There is both an introduction and a conclusion. The content is organized so as to present the information effectively. Paragraphs are ordered in such a way that they cannot be reordered at random, but instead provide logical transitions between ideas.
- **Attention to Assignment:** You adhere to the assignment as presented above, including main objectives, word count, attention to audience, and the additional requirements. You clearly understand what the assignment is asking you to do and are attempting to do it.
- **Manuscript preparation:** You have made changes between drafts that reflect attention to both instructor and peer comments. You have made an effort to improve your paper.

Drafts

- **First Drafts** are due on **Wednesday, March 4th** at the beginning of class time. First drafts are graded only on "The Basics" above.
- **Revised Drafts** are due on **Wednesday, March 18th** at the beginning of class time. Revised drafts are graded only on attempts to respond to comments from the first drafts.
- **Final Drafts** are due on **Monday, March 23rd** at the beginning of class time. Final drafts are graded on the "Grading Criteria" above.