Practice Tests Plus Advanced 2 **NEW EDITION**

Writing file Student scripts

Review

(Test I, Part 2, Question 3)

Script A: Good answer

I am quite a film buff, and love any type of film but one film I've always enjoyed and watched time and time again is Back to the Future'. I feel it deserves to be included in the set of DVDs of the best films ever for a variety of reasons.

I realise that it's now quite an old film, but that's not an issue. It has become very much a cult item and is considered by many to be a classic. The story is about a young man whose inventor friend builds a time machine in the shape of a Delorean car. After going back in time, the young man has to make sure that certain things do or don't happen in the past in order to make his own future happen - which is now the present!

At the time it was made, the film was quite revolutionary both in terms of the story and its special effects. There are many reasons why I would recommend it for the set of DVDs, apart from its initial impact. The central character is sympathetic, and very well-acted you really care what happens to him. There is a lot of humour all the way through, especially in the character of the inventor and in the way he talks about things. Finally there is a great deal of suspense as it is difficult to predict what will happen not only at the very end but almost minute by minute.

It is certainly a film that appeals to any age, and every time you watch it you see something new. It will never go out of fashion, was very influential in its day and for all these reasons It deserves to be part of the DVD set.

Examiner comments

This is an excellent answer. All the points are included so the **content** is relevant and the reader is fully informed. It is well-organised using linking words and clear paragraphs: it is coherent as the writer describes the film, outlines the plot and gives reasons for its inclusion in the set of DVDs. There is a range of language which is accurate and engages the reader. It holds the reader's attention with ease, so that it communicates very effectively. It is slightly over-length, but this is not a problem as everything is relevant and clear.

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(Test I, Part 2, Question 3)

Script B: Satisfactory answer

I am writing in response to your 'Best film ever' competition in your magazine today. The film I would recommend named 'Twelve Angry Men' which was published in 1965 and casted by Henry Fonda.

The film was about a jury in the United States. An Italian teenager, who was born in a slum area, had been accused for murder of his father. There were many evidences against the poor young man, For example, the father was killed by a flick knife. And it was known that this young man had a bad relation with his father. And also the young man did not have any alibi. The young man was facing life imprisonment if he was convicted guilty. And most of the juror thought it was an easy task to decide before they entered the jury room.

However, there was one juror disagreed. This number 8 juror tried his best to persuade the others to think twice before jump to the conclusion. After numerous debates and quarrels, he successfully convinced all the other juror agree that there were reasonable doubts in the case. And at the end all juror unamously voted for not guilty.

I watched this film for more than five times and I was still impressed by the style of the film. The most special feature of this film in my opinion is more than 99% of the time happened in the jury room. There as no other attraction to the people except for the dialogue. The jury seemed to be a concentrate of our society. There were different kinds of person with different objectives, hidden under each of their faces. Throughout the debates all these under reasons were shown.

I will strongly recommend 'Twelve angry Men' to be the best film I have ever seen. And I have never seen any similar film which mostly happened in a room only, before or after Twelve Angry Men'. I will be really appreciated if you and your prestige team share the same view. I look forward to hearing the final decision from you soon.

Examiner comments

This is well-organised in paragraphs, and describes the film and states clearly the reasons why it should be included in the set of DVDs. The **content** is generally relevant and interesting, but although there is a wide range of **language** attempted, there are too many mistakes. The answer is also much too long, which means the number of mistakes is even greater than if the answer had been the correct length. Even when these mistakes do not prevent the reader from understanding the meaning, they create a negative impression which causes the **communication** to be less effective. It is just about satisfactory.

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Review

(Test I, Part 2, Question 3)

Script C: Unsatisfactory answer

I want to write about the 'Best Film Ever'. I have chosen a quite well known film which appears to me like a revelation. I would like to introduce you 'La Mame Piaf' by Olivier Dahan. First of all, you have to know some information about the main character played by Marion Catilllard, who was splendid in the interpretation of Edith Piaf (1915 – 1963). Through the film, which recounts the fantastic and improbably personal development of a wonderful singer, the spectator is enthralled by the plot. Edith Giovana Jassim had a very hard life. During her short life, she has gone through some difficult times, notably during her childhood. Fortune smiled on her only one time when a famous productor helped her to be in the news.

Then, I would like to expose you the main plot of the film. The director looked into two major aspects in Edith Piaf's life: her career but above all her passionate love for Marcel Cendan. We could say that this well-known singer lived on love alone. Even through her song, her lyrics, she sang out of love for him, a young boxer.

The film was really appreciated all around the world, especially by the French public. Her whole life is an example to follow. She set the spectator an example of courage and will. Despite her unsuccessful love affairs, Edith Piaf managed to achieve her goal. Moreover, I would like to emphasise the quality of Marion Estilland's interpretation. She succeed in interpreting her role correctly.

Finally, the film has received such a lot of prices that it's obvious that it'll be in the set. If the film is included in the set, it'll be a last homage to Edith Piaf who was universally regarded as France's greatest singer.

Examiner comments

There is some good **language** used, and some interesting vocabulary, e.g. enthralled, fortune smiled on her, but the writer has described her own response to the film without really explaining why the film itself is so good. This means that the **content** is not always relevant and does not fulfil the **communicative** purposes of a review. Although the paragraphing is confused at the beginning, the **organisation** of the answer is generally clear but it would not be satisfactory because it doesn't really answer the question.